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BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Police investigation a 'witch hunt': Grell

EDMONTON CATHOLIC BOARD

Complaint linked to alleged erasure of recording



**Braeden
Jones**
Metro|Edmonton

Police are investigating the embattled Edmonton Catholic School Board District after receiving a complaint that an audio recording of an important board meeting was allegedly erased earlier this month.

District spokesperson Lori Nagy confirmed police are investigating a "mischief complaint" linked to the alleged erasure of a recording from an

Oct. 1 board meeting. The meeting in question was to evaluate the performance of Supt. Joan Carr.

"All meetings get recorded," Nagy said, adding that in this case, "it was just a recording of the evaluation."

Sources confirmed that after the meeting ended and board members left, trustees Patricia Grell and newly-elected

chairperson Marilyn Bergstra remained in the room.

Grell told Metro she and Bergstra "were having a private conversation" when they realized the recorder was still recording.

"We wanted to rewind it just a little bit and erase what our conversation was about, and what happened is we must have erased the whole thing," she said.

Grell said she suspects who-

ever filed the mischief complaint has an agenda to "discredit trustee Bergstra," who was elected to the board's chair Tuesday, as well as herself.

"It sounds slightly like a little bit of a witch hunt to me."

Bergstra declined an offer to comment.

Grell said the infighting validates Education Minister David Eggen's decision to appoint an

intervener to the board.

"This is the very kind of thing we need to talk about," she said. "The bullying that goes on between trustees, just because they might take a stand that is different than others."

A spokesperson for Eggen's office confirmed to Metro the minister is aware of the investigation and will leave it to the police.

WITH FILES FROM RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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FARM ACCIDENT

Global support for Bott family rolls in



Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

The heartbreaking story of three Albertan girls buried alive in canola seeds Tuesday has triggered an outpouring of support from around the world.

And it was Dave Brand who gave them all a way to contribute.

On Wednesday at about 5 p.m. Brand — who lives about a kilometre from the parents of Catie, Jana and Dara Bott, who died Tuesday of suffocation after being buried in a truckload of canola — created a GoFundMe campaign to raise money for the family.

As of press time, the campaign had raised more than \$60,000 in just 24 hours.

"As you can probably imagine, the family needs much more than money at this point — they need support and lots of other things from the community," said Brand, whose own two children were friends with Catie, 13, and 11-year-old twins Jana and Dara.

"But there are costs that are going to be incurred and nobody knows at this point but there's always potential for loss of income," he said. "As a farming family, there's always that possibility."

Perhaps the most touching



The Bott family CONTRIBUTED

part of Brand's campaign is the global scope of the response. People from as far off as Australia and New Zealand have looked at the site, Brand said, and people from Europe and the U.S. have donated.

Words of support have arrived along with dollars. "I know my donation won't go far but put it with a thousand others and it will," writes one donor. "Our family is thinking about yours today."

Brand said he intends to keep the campaign going as long as donations pour in — he's already had to adjust the money target from its original \$10,000 — and that he hopes to gather all the comments to present to the family, who he considers close friends.

"The true benefit has been the emotional support that's come through from the donors," he said.

\$60K

A GoFundMe campaign to raise money for the family of the girls has raised \$60,000 so far.



Samantha Pham and Jeremie Buchberger are hosting a live paranormal investigation of McKay Avenue School. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

Haunt for Halloween

FUN

Paranormal investigators will tour former school



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

Something about Edmonton's McKay Avenue School gives Samantha Pham the creeps.

Maybe it's the old, empty hallways from what was once Alberta's first legislative assembly,

or the eerie stillness of the long-abandoned classrooms.

Or maybe it's the construction worker who, in 1912, was killed after falling off the roof of the school. Some say he now haunts the place.

For Pham, that makes McKay the perfect spot for a haunted Halloween night.

"I was looking for something to do on Halloween and thought, 'Why not just host my own event?'" Pham said. "I've always been fascinated with the paranormal. I watch all those shows on haunted investigations and always thought it was really cool."

Pham has organized a paranormal investigation workshop

on Oct. 30 alongside Jeremie Buchberger, the lead investigator of Edmonton's Pandemonium Paranormal.

It's the first live paranormal experience ever offered to the public in the city, she said.

Armed with motion sensors, video cameras, highly sensitive microphones and a control room filled with live-streaming televisions, five paranormal investigators will lead three groups of 10 people through the school in the evening in hopes of witnessing paranormal activity.

Participants will tour the school for an hour followed by an hour-and-a-half discussion with the paranormal investiga-

tors. At the end of the night, everyone will watch and listen to the gathered footage.

After speaking with the school's supervisor, Pham said she's certain things are bound to go bump in the night.

"She said one day she was in the archives room in the basement. The next day when she went to open the school, all the papers were scattered everywhere across the room," Pham said.

"But she was the last one there, and the room was locked."

Tickets for the paranormal workshop are \$70 and are still available on Pham's website at jadoredesignandevents.ca.

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HEALTH

Get your flu shot, says AHS

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

As Alberta saw its first flu outbreak this year at a long-term care facility in Edmonton, some are questioning the effectiveness of this year's vaccine.

Last year, a type A influenza (H3N2) — the same strain that was found in the Edmonton facility — proved to be challenging for the province — the strain mutated, meaning vaccines against H3N2 were virtually ineffective.

There have also been three H3N2 flu outbreaks in B.C. this year — higher than expected at a time when most aren't vaccinated.

"These (cases) indicate H3N2 might be the dominant strain again," said Glen Armstrong, a University of Calgary professor in the department of microbiology, immunology and infectious diseases. "But it's still too early to say that strain will be dominant as the flu season progresses."

Effectiveness against H3N2 was basically zero per cent last year, he added. He predicted this year's effectiveness against H3N2 is around the 50 per cent mark.

Still, officials with Alberta Health Services told reporters Thursday that people should get flu shots to best protect themselves from the respiratory virus. Vaccinations are open to the public on Oct. 20.

"Chances are (people) will be exposed," said Dr. Gerry Predy, AHS senior medical officer of health. "Don't take that chance ... protect yourself to protect others."

Alberta Health has enough vaccine supply for 40 per cent of the population. Last year, 30 per cent of Albertans were immunized.



Willem van Gogh, great-nephew of painter Vincent van Gogh, stands in front of the Southgate Centre exhibit showcasing the famous painter's work. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Van Gogh replicas hit Southgate Centre

ART

Exclusive collection will be on display until Nov. 19



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

With their vivid colours and masterful brush strokes, Willem van Gogh isn't surprised his great-uncle Vincent van Gogh's paintings still inspire awe 125 years after his death.

"It's timeless, he was a very

innovative artist," van Gogh said. "Vincent found consolation in nature, and he appeals to so many people because he painted everybody's lives in a symbolic way."

For the first time in Canada, nine replica paintings from the famed post-impressionist painter will be on display at Southgate Centre from Oct. 16 to Nov. 19.

The pop-up Van Gogh Museum Edition Collection exhibit includes paintings that demonstrate a variety of the Dutch artist's celebrated work. The paintings were replicated through a partnership between the Van Gogh Museum and Fuji film using a technology called



It's timeless, he was a very innovative artist.

Willem van Gogh

reliefography, which copies the original paintings down to each three-dimensional brush stroke.

The reproductions took seven years to create, and are now for sale for \$40,000 each. There are only 260 of them available in the world.

"From the naked eye, you don't see any difference," the paintings' distributor Diedrick

van Eck said. "The back of the paintings are exactly alike and they're numbered and certified by the museum."

The paintings have already made stops in Hong Kong, Beijing and Los Angeles. From Edmonton, they will travel on to Vancouver. It's a dream come true for art fans, but also for the late van Gogh, van Eck said.

"He once wrote a letter to his brother, Theo, in which he said 'Wouldn't it be wonderful if one day we could have reproductions so that everybody would understand what I'm trying to express?'"

"It's fulfilling a big wish he had."

METRO LINE

40% of LRTs can't use tracks

Braeden Jones
Metro | Edmonton

Forty per cent of Edmonton's 94 train light-rail fleet has yet to be upgraded to run on the newly opened Metro Line, a situation that sees the city pointing fingers yet again at Thales Canada and has "complicated" the entire system's flexibility, according to officials.

After a closed-door update last week, Mayor Don Iveson said Thales is "nowhere near" done retrofitting trains and that while close to complete, the fleet should have been ready 21 months ago.

Wayne Mandryk, branch manager for LRT design and construction, said all of the trains awaiting Thales retrofits are the city's older models, and there's difficulty "marrying older technology to the newer (signalling) system."

All 57 of the cars currently capable of running on the Metro Line — the first and only cars Thales has retrofitted — are Siemens SD-160 models, and were all brought into the city's fleet around 2006.

"They've given us enough vehicles to run the NAIT line with the SD 160s," Mandryk said. "What we can't do is run the old vehicles yet. That reduces (the fleet's) flexibility and complicates booking because those 37 older cars are restricted."

In order for trains to be more frequent on the Metro Line — with 10 minute separation rather than the current 15 — more trains need to be equipped and certified to work on the Metro line's communications-based train control signalling system, which Mandryk said Thales is "still working on."

"They will probably certify them all at once."



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METROTALKS

EDMONTON CANDIDATES

The CPC Platform

As part of an ongoing series, Metro sat down with local Conservatives **Tim Uppal** (Edmonton Mill Woods), **Rona Ambrose** (Sturgeon River – Parkland) and **Mike Lake** (Edmonton Wetaskiwin) to talk about the issues. Here's what they had to say:

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

Growth

Metro: There are a lot of concerns in the city about how to fund the growth of Edmonton, whether it is transit or some of the other needed infrastructure. What can the Conservatives offer Edmonton?

Lake: As MPs we obviously sit down with our counterparts in the various orders of government, and have conversations about the values and the things that are important to our constituents.

When you take a look at our record over time — because it's important to look at our record — on a per-year basis you are seeing eight times more funding under our government than the previous government in Alberta for infrastructure.

We doubled the gas tax and we made it permanent and that makes a huge difference in terms of infrastructure spending.

Metro: All of the parties are offering at least a \$1 billion a year for transit. One difference between you and the other parties is that you are running these projects through public private partnerships.

What is the advantage to the P3 approach for taxpayers or cities?

Ambrose: They don't have to do a P3, but we require them to do a P3 screening so that if a P3 is advantageous to the project,



Conservative candidates Tim Uppal (Edmonton Mill Woods), Rona Ambrose (Sturgeon River – Parkland) and Mike Lake (Edmonton Wetaskiwin) answer questions in the Metro office.

KEVIN TUONG/METRO

then they can capitalize on that.

There are a lot of income funds that are interested in investing heavily into infrastructure projects. They see it as a good place to park their money. It allows the public sector — be it the province or the City of Edmonton — to be able to invest less, so it's a way to leverage funds.

Child care

Metro: We're hearing concerns about the cost to daycare and access to daycare. Your party has put money directly in the hands of parents. Do you feel that's the best way?

Ambrose: I think a national institutional daycare program is very regressive and very backward-looking. The modern family is not a family where mom and dad work nine to five, Monday to Friday.

Economy

Metro: We have seen a slight turnaround in the economy nationally, but in Alberta we are still seeing layoffs and bankruptcy filings. What will Alberta see in the next couple of years in terms of a federal strategy to diversify and get us off the boom bust cycle?

Ambrose: At the end of the day it is going to have to be about every Albertan making that decision and we have a department literally just for that, which I am the minister of. It funds hundreds of millions of dollars to diversify the economy away from resources.

That has been going on for decades and we still see this dependency. Why? Because it's cheap to make money in the energy industry.

At the end of the day there

are also companies that we hope will be able to start-up and hire people. They don't need higher EI premiums, they don't need higher payroll taxes.

Refugees

Metro: The Syrian refugee crisis has really caught peoples' attention. Do you feel like your government has done enough to help refugees?

Uppal: This has been an issue that the government has already been taking very seriously for quite some time and has already made commitments in the area.

We were focused on it before and will continue to do so. We have made commitments of over 20,000 refugees and we made an additional commitment of another 10,000 refugees that will be settled by next year.

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Candidates pledge support for cities

ELECTION 2015

Transit looms large in Edmonton Centre



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton Centre could — one day — have three LRT lines crisscrossing it. For that to happen, of course, Edmonton will need a lot of federal cash.

Unsurprisingly, all of the candidates in Edmonton Centre say their party is willing to provide it.

NDP candidate Gil McGowan said both his party and the Liberals are prepared to make that investment, but the NDP don't want to do it with debt.

"We think our approach is the more prudent approach. It will result in the construction of much needed public sector infrastructure, like transit, but it will do it by introducing a tax system that is fairer.

He said an NDP government would recognize the importance of Canada's big cities.

Liberal candidate Randy Boissonnault said his party wants to make a major infrastructure investment.

"We're going to the table with the greatest infrastructure investment. We are talking several billion dollars for this city

alone," he said.

Boissonnault said Liberal leader Justin Trudeau, if elected, will meet with big city mayors regularly.

"Fundamentally, we're going to be a funding partner for big cities and on big cities issues."

Conservative Party candidate James Cumming said people should look to his party's record.

"This government has put forward the largest federal infrastructure investment in federal history," he said.

Cumming said the only difference between his parties and others is their sound fiscal management.

"We're going to spend that kind of money and we're still going to keep this budget in balance."



The Edmonton Centre riding stretches across downtown and into nearby communities.

CONTRIBUTED

ON THE RECORD: METRO ASKS THE CANDIDATES

James Cumming — Conservative

Why are you running?

After a career in both business and not-for-profit, chairing boards, chairing a variety of different organizations and also having a family grow up in the riding, I wanted to take that body of work and that experience I have, including growing jobs and helping not-for-profits, and take that to some of the policy decisions with the federal government.



What is this election about?

The economy and jobs. That's the thing I hear from people at the doors and that's what they want us to focus on.

That is the most predominant issue I hear about at the doors and I think our platform, about how we are going to go about that is a great fit. It's a platform of keeping taxes down and allowing people to have more disposable income to spend if they chose.

It's a platform of living within your means.

Randy Boissonnault — Liberal

Why are you running?

So that Edmonton has a strong voice in Ottawa that's going to go bat for our city and help our city grow. For 10 years we have essentially had MPs that give us talking points from Stephen Harper and the prime minister's office.

It's time that we had somebody in Ottawa that goes to bat for our city, helps build up our city, our province and our country.



What is this election about?

It's fundamentally about growth. It's about growing the economy, growing jobs, growing our city's LRT system, growing our roadways, growing the environment, growing the number of trading relationships and growing our international reputation.

This comes down to a fundamental choice between growth and stagnation. We are in our second recession thanks to Stephen Harper and only the Liberal party has a plan for growth.

Gil McGowan — NDP

Why are you running?

First and foremost to stop Stephen Harper.

Like most other Canadians, I have simply had enough of his government, but I'm also running to provide Canadians with the kind of government that they've been hoping for, which is a government more aligned with their values and priorities.



What is this election about?

There is a real hunger for change, but not just change for change's sake, people are really hungry for progressive change.

That's why I am confident that a majority of people will vote for the New Democrats, because they're the only party thinking big in terms of social policy.

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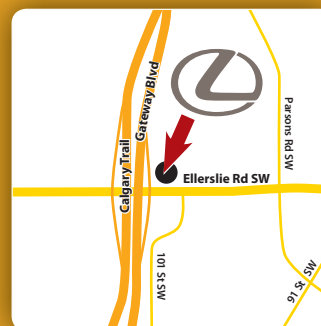
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RIDE-SHARE

Uber illegal says Nenshi

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi is urging Calgarians not to drive for the service that has generated controversy in municipalities across the country, including Edmonton.

The outspoken mayor says he is disappointed Uber decided to begin its operations in Calgary on Thursday without adequate insurance or regulations to protect public safety.

"I strongly suggest that you don't drive for Uber and that you don't use Uber until the insurance and regulatory issues are sorted out," Nenshi in a statement. "If you drive for Uber, you should be aware that you are breaking the law."

Neither the Uber vehicles or their drivers are licensed by the City of Calgary.

The company would be happy to help work on new regulations, said Ramit Kar, Uber's general manager in Alberta. Uber said it will pay fines for or provide lawyers to any drivers fined by the city.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rainbow Visions



HOW TO DOUGLAS
Douglas Dollars

ALL WEEKEND:

The first-ever Rainbow Visions LGBTQ film festival kicked off at the Metro Cinema (8712 109 Street) Thursday and runs all weekend — so 'Festival city' continues, even in film form.

LitFest, Edmonton's Non-Fiction Festival, returns from the 15th through 20th this month, with a calendar packed full of readings, workshops and deeper glimpses into the world around us.

FRIDAY:

Latitude 53 at 10242 106 Street hosts the second annual Land of Love exhibition of locally-produced Persian artwork between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

At 9 p.m. rock hero Ted Leo headlines a concert at Brixx (10030 102 Street) with support from Golden Years and Wares.

On the other side of the river, at Wunderbar (8120 101 Street), Edmonton's visited again by the hardest working musician in Canada, B.A. Johnston, with support from



The Rainbow Visions Film Festival kicked off Thursday.

GUY LAVALLEE/RAINBOW VISIONS FILM FESTIVAL

Napalmom and TeeTahs.

DJ Nu-Mark of the critically-acclaimed hip hop group Jurassic 5 makes one heck of an entrance at the new venue '9910,' below The Common, at 9910B 109 Street. The Common is well known for its dance parties, and 9910 looks to be carrying the flag as well.

SATURDAY:

Nourish Cafe at 8440 109 Street is an unusual home to a screening of the film 'Unnatural Enemies,' and a presentation on the treatment of Alberta's wolves at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m..

Black Mastiff bring their unique mix of '70s grind metal and blues revival in the first of two nightly 9 p.m. shows at Wunderbar (8120 101 Street). Backed by Regina's Black Thun-

der, this is a rare opportunity to see both these bands together — and at their current creative peaks.

If you're looking for laughs, then another monthly edition of Weird Al Karaoke croons at Cha Island (10332 81 Avenue) is the place to be around 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY:

The Sociology Undergraduate Student Association puts on interesting talks from experts in somewhat unconventional environments, such as the Garneau location of Transcend (8708 109 Street) between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. This edition's topic is Art & the Body, featuring: Dr. Richard Westerman, Dr. Helen Vallianatos and Connie Westgate.

+ THE INTERVIEW INTERNATIONAL STAGE

Rainbow Visions director Guy Lavallee, who's also the programmer of Northwestfest, answered a couple of my questions about the new film to-do in Edmonton.

Douglas Dollars:

New film festivals seem to be popping up in Edmonton in recent years. Why is this one arriving?

Guy Lavallee: One of our board members pointed out the fact that Edmonton was the only major or mid-sized city in Canada without a dedicated LGBTQ film festival, and when we started to research that, we realized it was true.

There's a huge need and demand for a festival like this in Edmonton and so we've spent the last two years planning for our launch.

One of the things I really wanted to focus on with the programming ... We didn't want a super issue-heavy weekend of

films — with only 12 slots, our goal was to entertain and showcase the incredible variety of films being made in the LGBTQ community today.

Douglas: With the legacy of Northwestfest (formerly 'Global Visions') being Canada's longest running documentary film festival, and now Rainbow Visions being its sibling, do you have plans for other emerging festivals?

Brent: Our focus is to make these two festivals the best they can possibly be.

Growing our audiences, widening the scope of our programming initiatives and establishing ourselves as 'must-attend' events on the annual cultural calendar.

Our focus is on bringing two amazing and diverse festivals to our fellow Edmontonians, and we plan to just keep making both events bigger and better with each year.

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READY TO ENGAGE

Metro's daily primer on what the parties are saying about the issues that matter to urban Canadians



Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau poses for a selfie with a student while touring Mohawk College, in Hamilton, Ont., Wednesday. Youth turnout sat at a dismal 39 per cent last election, which means 61 per cent of young people are now getting exactly what they deserve from politicians: nothing, Rosemary Westwood argues. PAUL CHIASSON/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Don't just 'expect' democracy



ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
Metro

Over the course of last week, in a deeply franco-phone suburb of Montreal, 2,017 students on one CEGEP campus cast a vote.

None of those ballots will count on Monday's election. They're part of Student Vote, a non-partisan push to engage young Canadians in politics via mock elections.

But Semra Sevi, the 26-year-old teacher who organized the vote, hopes at least some of the fake ballots will translate into real ones.

Her students, aged 18 to 24, are part of the elusive "youth vote" — the cohort hailed by Rick Mercer as a democratic silver bullet that could "change the country," and sought by groups like votesavvy.ca, youthvote.ca, the Council of Canadians vote pledge, and even Elections Canada, which set up special polls on Canadian campuses to lure more young Canadians.

All these efforts are admirable, and I genuinely hope they work. Youth turnout sat at a dismal 39 per cent last election, which means that 61 per

cent of young people are getting exactly what they deserve from politicians this time around: nothing. Election platforms are offering to people under 45 pennies for every dollar offered to those over 65, according to a Generation Squeeze report.

Why, some ask, would politicians speak to a group that doesn't bother to vote? Why, others ask, would people vote for politicians who ignore them? Some call it apathy; others prefer cynicism.

My view: we're spoiled brats.

You know why young people don't feel the need to value democracy? Because they expect it. For most of us, life in Canada is pretty great. Even for those Canadian children growing

up in poverty, there are still benefits to living in Canada that cannot be found in many places in the world — small freedoms, such as they are: the lack of a brutal dictator, free schools, clean air.

When Semra Sevi was asking her students about voting, before she started the Student Vote campaign, they told her they felt ignored by politicians. "They didn't feel like politicians deserved their vote," she told me.

But the question isn't whether politicians deserve your vote: it's whether democracy deserves your participation. Anyone who refuses to vote is freeloading. They are abdicating their responsibility, yes, but far more importantly, they are

expecting the rest of us to pick up the slack. That's true even of those seeking political change through activism, who would lobby officials for change, without bothering to help elect them.

I've been racking my brain trying to think up some kind of experience that we could give young people so they could no longer hold onto the excuse of ignorance.

Some kind of equivalent to the dangerous two-hour journey to school taken by a boy and his sister in Kenya, and depicted in the documentary *On the Way to School*. You know what the kids do when they finally get to class? They shut up and listen to their teacher. They had to work so hard just to get there, that they hungered for an education.

And yet we, steeped as we are in the benefits of a rich democracy, seem already far too well-fed.

If young people do not, a la Mercer, "change the country" this time around, I'll be hard pressed to hold out much hope for the next time.

And what they say about us millennials will in fact be true: we have no idea how good we have it.

2015 ELECTION COUNTDOWN

Rosie Westwood reflects on the key issues.

- TUES. Women
- WED. Environment
- THURS. Canadian values
- FRI. Youth engagement

“Anyone who refuses to vote is freeloading. They are abdicating their responsibility, yes, but far more importantly, they are expecting the rest of us to pick up the slack.”

QUICK GUIDE YOUTH ISSUES

Here's a breakdown of promises and legislative measures from the **NDP**, **Liberals**, **Conservatives** and **Greens**

ON EDUCATION

Conservatives:

- Promise to raise government contribution to education savings plans.
- Lower the minimum course length required to qualify for financial assistance from 60 to 34 weeks.

Liberals:

- Increase Canada Student Grants by 50 per cent.
- Allow students to wait until they're earning \$25,000 a year before having to repay student loans.

NDP:

- Eliminate interest on student loans over seven years.
- Spend \$250 million to create 74,000 new grants for students over four years.
- Improve educational outcomes for First Nations.

Greens:

- Cut tuition fees for low-income students and families.
- Forgive all student loans over \$10,000.
- Eliminate interest on new student loans.

ON YOUTH JOBS

Conservatives:

- Increase apprenticeship job creation tax credit.
- Aim to create 1.3 million net new jobs overall by 2020.

Liberals:

- Spend \$300 million a year to create 120,000 jobs.
- Create 5,000 "green" jobs.
- Spend \$40 million a year to support new co-op placements for students.

NDP:

- Establish \$15-an-hour minimum wage.
- Provide up to \$100 million a year to create more than 40,000 jobs, paid internships and co-op placements for youth over four years.

Greens:

- Create Youth Community and Environment Service Corps, which would provide minimum-wage employment for 40,000 youth every year for four years.

LATEST POLL

LIB 37% CON 29% NDP 23%

Source: Nanos/CTV



The Conservatives and NDP attacked apparent front-runner Liberal leader Justin Trudeau, with remarks about the sponsorship scandal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leaders aim for Trudeau

ELECTION 2015

Grits fire back with criticism of Tories' Ford support

The Dan Gagnier drag chute billowed out behind the Liberal campaign Thursday, giving Stephen Harper and Tom Mulcair a badly needed chance to catch up to the apparent front-runner, Justin Trudeau.

Trudeau, however, gave as good as he got — at least as far as the Conservative leader was concerned — by amping up the outrage over Rob and Doug Ford's recent appearance on the Tory trail.

Gagnier, the party's campaign co-chairman, abruptly quit his volunteer post Wednesday after The Canadian Press disclosed details of an email in which he provides lobbying advice to an oil pipeline company.

That gave Harper and Mulcair the perfect opportunity to take a swing at a long-standing Achilles heel for the Liberals: the sponsorship scandal.

"They can try to put a

fresh face on it, but behind the scenes it's still the same old gang pulling the same old tricks," said the NDP's Mulcair, who could barely contain his glee.

"You can't trust the Liberals. It's the same old Liberal party."

Trudeau, Mulcair noted, has been campaigning alongside former Liberal stalwarts Jean Chretien and Paul Martin, who presided over the party during the sponsorship scandal, in which firms won contracts based on donations to the Liberals with little work being done. Some of the cash was kicked back to Liberal operatives.

Harper, who was in Opposition at the height of the controversy, also seized on the chance to break out some of his greatest hits.

"I think we should all understand that the culture of the Liberal party that gave us the sponsorship scandal has not changed and it will not change."

For his part, Trudeau said Gagnier's departure demonstrates that the Liberals "take ethical standards and responsibilities extremely seriously."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Harper stays mum on majority

Stephen Harper moved on to more optimistic turf for his party Thursday, starting a swing through Quebec after several days of sweating it out on the high-stakes electoral battlefield of Ontario.

But he's not quite optimistic enough to go where his Liberal rival did earlier this week when Justin Trudeau uttered the word "majority."

In response to a reporter's question, Trudeau said he is

asking voters to give his Liberal party a majority. Harper, who was burned in 2004 for making similar late-campaign remarks, made it clear Thursday he's not following suit. Campaigning in Quebec, Harper was asked why he wasn't making the same request as Trudeau.

"We never take voters for granted in my party. That's not our approach," Harper said. "This is a tight race. We're here to encourage choice."

The choice, as the Conservative campaign puts it, is between a Liberal government that Harper says would drain money from Canadian wallets, and a Conservative government that would help keep it there. It's a point Harper has been illustrating all week by bringing a family or business owner up on stage to have them literally count out cash onto a waiting table, all to the incessant cha-ching of an old-timey cash register. THE CANADIAN PRESS

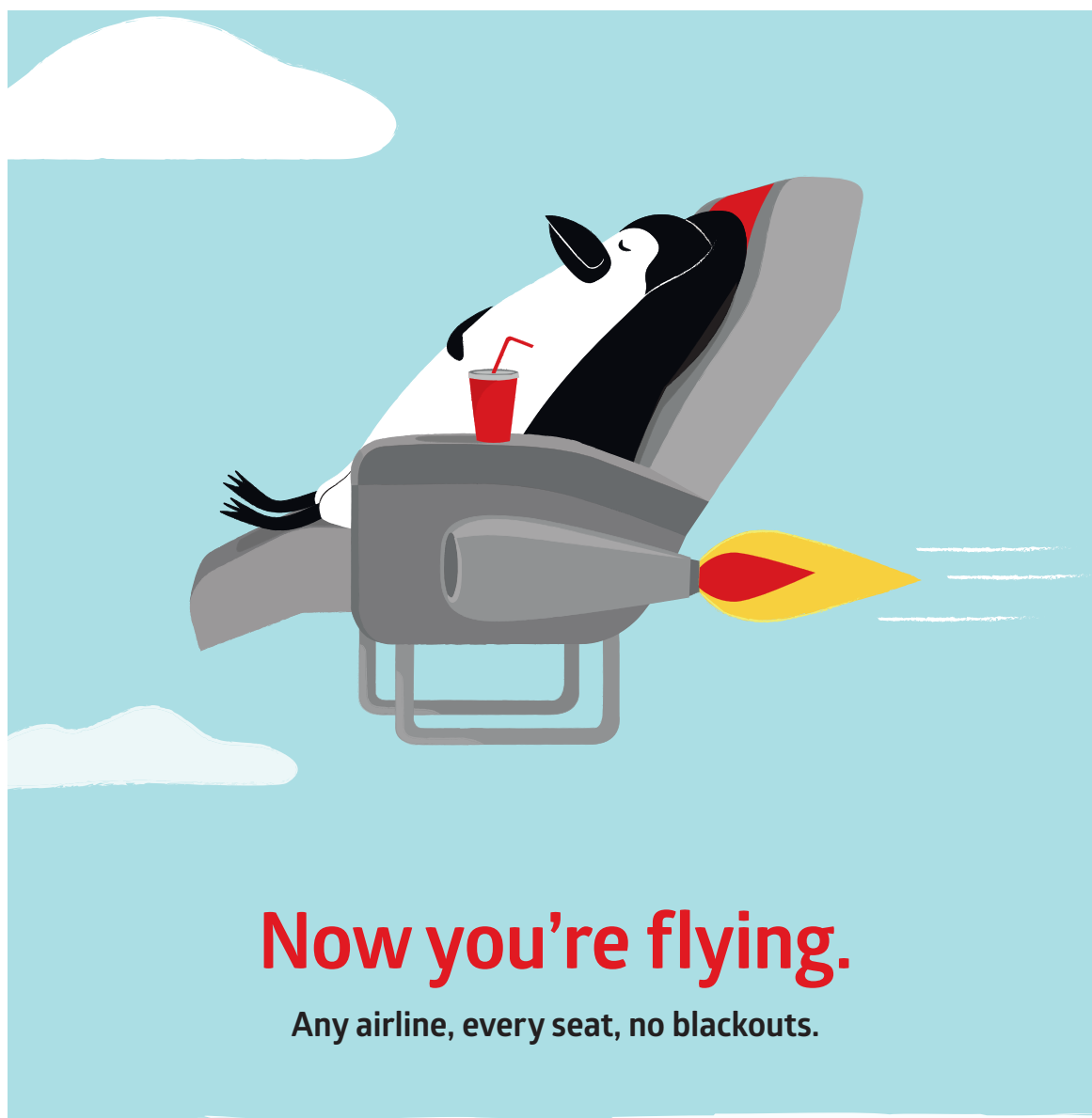
MANITOBA

'Misunderstanding' led to Canadian flag being removed from poll

A Canadian flag was removed from a Manitoba advance polling station on the weekend because a worker felt it violated election rules.

Elections Canada said a worker in Virden, near the Saskatchewan boundary, thought the red in the flag could be interpreted as support for the Liberal party.

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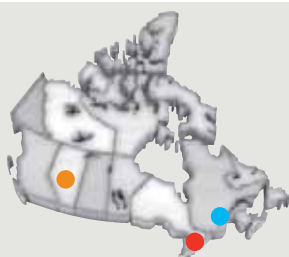
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WHERE THE LEADERS ARE FRIDAY



• **Stephen Harper** will be in Quebec City.

• **Justin Trudeau** will be in Ontario in Mississauga, Brampton, Richmond Hill and Markham.

• **Tom Mulcair** will be in Lac-Mégantic, Que., and in Edmonton.

• **Elizabeth May's** itinerary was unavailable.

Poilievre expenses \$15K for photo op

INVESTIGATION

Employment Minister used tax dollars to plug benefit

Employment Minister Pierre Poilievre expensed \$2,200 for a trip to Winnipeg where he held a photo op to watch government cheques for families coming off the presses.

Expense records obtained by the Star show Poilievre billed the public for approximately \$15,300 for travel while searching for families not signed up for enhanced child care benefits between mid-April and the end of June.

Poilievre said his travels were

important to meet Canadians on their own turf after being appointed minister of employment and social development, and his office said he conducted

with the Toronto Star.

"And we were able to sign up thousands of parents for the Universal Child Care Benefit." Poilievre held a series of photo-

trips where Poilievre held an event to promote the UCCB. Other costs, such as political staff travel or bureaucratic support, were not included.

The Star did not include other ministerial trips where UCCB was not on the agenda.

The photo-ops focused on the number of families in the city, region or province who had yet to sign up for the increased benefits — 200 families in Campbell River, 2,600 in Saskatoon, and so on.

His office was quick to point out that the minister routinely did more than one event on the travels, including speaking to Chambers of Commerce, meeting with municipal officials, and making unrelated announcements.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

“It was important for me as a new minister ... to be available for Canadians to share with me their views in how we can best serve them.”

Employment Minister Pierre Poilievre

other business on these trips.

"It was important for me as a new minister of the largest department in government... to be available for Canadians to share with me their views in how we can best serve them," said Poilievre, in an interview

ops and news conferences in five provinces and one territory between April 15 and June 30, the last day expense records were available in an access to information request from the Star.

The \$15,300 includes only

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ambassador, hero Ken Taylor dies at 81

Ken Taylor, Canada's ambassador to Iran, who sheltered Americans at his residence during the 1979 Iran hostage crisis, has died. He was 81.

Taylor's wife, Pat, said Ken died Thursday after a two-month battle with colon cancer.

Taylor kept the Americans hidden at his residence and at the home of his deputy, John Sheardown, in Tehran for three months. Taylor facilitated their escape by arranging plane tickets and persuading the Ottawa government to issue fake passports.

Born in 1934 in Calgary, Taylor was heralded as a hero for helping save the Americans —

a clandestine operation that had the full support of then Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark's government. In a posting on Twitter, Clark called Taylor a Canadian hero and a valued friend.

Some of Taylor's exploits in Iran in 1979 later became the subject of the 2012 Hollywood film, *Argo*. Taylor and others felt the film underplayed the role he and Canada played.

Taylor's wife said his legacy is his generosity.

"He did all sorts of things for everyone without any expectation of something coming back," she told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

Canadian Prime Minister

Stephen Harper said he was sad to learn of the news.

"As Canada's Ambassador to Iran during the Iranian Revolution, Taylor valiantly risked his own life by shielding a group of American diplomats from capture," Harper said. "Ken Taylor represented the very best that Canada's foreign service has to offer."

Although Taylor's actions were made famous in the movie *"Argo,"* which won the 2013 Oscar for best picture, Taylor and others felt slighted by the movie.

He said it made Canada look like a meek observer to CIA heroics.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ken Taylor THE CANADIAN PRESS

WOMEN'S HEALTH

STI rates spike as Pap smears dwindle

Young women in Ontario are being screened for sexually transmitted infections far less often since updated guidelines reduced the frequency of Pap tests for cervical cancer, a study suggests.

Researchers at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto found the guidelines, which were rewritten in 2012, reduced Pap smear rates by 60 per cent in the year after their introduction — and that led to a 50 per cent drop in gonorrhea and chlamydia testing among women aged 15 to 24. Patients were also less likely to be screened for

syphilis, hepatitis C and HIV.

Prior to 2012, women were advised to start cervical cancer screening within three years of becoming sexually active, followed by annual testing. After three normal Pap test results, subsequent screening was recommended every two or three years until age 70.

The updated guidelines by Cancer Care Ontario recommend starting Pap tests at age

21 for women who have been sexually active, with three-year screening intervals if test results are normal.

"Historically, we know that Pap tests and STI screening are linked because they're often performed at the same time," said lead author Dr. Tali Bogler, a family physician at St. Mike's.

But because women aren't

visiting their doctors as often for Pap smears, that's caused a drop in screening for STIs, she said Thursday, noting that chlamydia and gonorrhea are common among young women and incidence of those infections is on the rise.

Researchers found rates of Pap smear testing among women in the study dropped from 42 per cent before the guideline change to 17 per cent after, and screening of gonorrhea and chlamydia decreased from 40 per cent to 20 per cent.

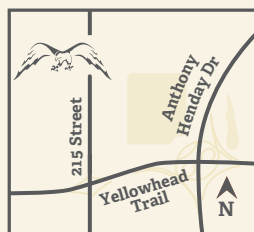
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Troops target Homs

SYRIA

Russian allies carry out rare airstrike on ISIL position

Syrian troops and their allies launched an offensive in the central province of Homs on Thursday and Russia's government said its warplanes carried out a rare airstrike near Damascus, targeting a position of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) southeast of the capital.

The offensive came as a senior Iranian official told reporters in Damascus that Tehran would consider sending troops to Syria only upon a request from the Syrian government.

Alaeddin Boroujerdi, the head of a parliamentary committee on national security and foreign policy, reiterated his country's full support for the Syrian government, stressing that a political solution is the only way for Syria to emerge from the current crisis.



Syrian army personnel fire a cannon in Latakia province, about 12 kilometres from the Syria-Turkey border, last week. ALEXANDER KOTS/KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA COURTESY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boroujerdi's comments came despite reports that hundreds of Iranian troops have already been deployed in northern and central Syria, dramatically escalating Tehran's involvement in the civil war as they join allied Hezbollah fighters in an ambitious offensive to wrest key areas from rebels.

A regional official who has

knowledge of operational details in Syria told The Associated Press on Wednesday about 1,500 Iranian revolutionary guards have arrived in Syria in the past two weeks. Other Syrian activists also reported the fresh arrival of Iranian troops.

Asked whether Iran has forces on the ground, Boroujerdi said: "According to Iran's

anti-terrorism strategy, we submitted weapons and experts to those two countries (Iraq and Syria). Any other request will be considered and debated in Iran."

Iranian and Syrian officials have long acknowledged Iran has advisers and military experts in Syria, but denied the presence of any ground troops.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REFUGEE CRISIS

EU leaders moving to shore up borders

Faced with a refugee emergency that is only likely to deepen, European Union leaders moved on Thursday to shore up the bloc's borders to the outside world and fundamentally reshape the way they deal with asylum seekers.

The leaders also struggled to persuade a reluctant Turkey to do more to stop tens of thousands of refugees entering Greece — offering vast amounts of money, easing visa restrictions for Turkish citizens and accelerating the country's EU membership talks.

According to draft conclusions seen by The Associated Press, an action plan for Ankara to help it manage the impact of some two million refugees will be rapidly implemented, and diplomats said that the country could receive several billion euros in additional funds.

But as the leaders met, senior EU officials lashed out at the leaders for failing to live up to past promises of funds and resources.

Thousands of people continue to risk the dangerous

journey daily. Greece recovered seven more bodies off the island of Lesbos Thursday after a migrant boat collision, and shivering newcomers streamed into Croatia.

They are just some of the more than 500,000 people fleeing war or poverty to enter Europe this year, most of them via Greece and Italy.

In response, EU leaders promised last month to provide hundreds of millions of euros for Syrian refugees and to help Africa better manage its borders, as well as funding experts to fingerprint and screen new arrivals in Italy and Greece. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ FUNDING

The European Commission has complained that only three of 28 nations have pledged a total of just \$13.7 million to a fund to help African nations better manage their borders. The pot is meant to total about \$2 billion over two years.

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Christopher Stokes, second left, of Doctors Without Borders, and his colleague with an Afghan National Army vehicle guarding the gate in Kunduz on Thursday. NAJIM RAHIM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. tank forces way into bombed charity

AFGHANISTAN

Intruders were probing earlier blast, staff told

A medical charity whose hospital in northern Afghanistan was bombed by the U.S. military said on Thursday that a U.S. tank forced its way through the closed gates of

the compound, contravening an agreement that they would be informed.

Doctors Without Borders, also known as MSF, said they were informed after the "intrusion" that it was by a delegation from a U.S.-NATO-Afghan team investigating the Oct. 3 bombing of the hospital.

The incident violated an agreement with investigators that MSF "would be given no-

tice before each step of the procedure involving the organization's personnel and assets."

"Their unannounced and forced entry damaged property, destroyed potential evidence and caused stress and fear," it said in a statement.

The strike on the MSF trauma hospital in the northern city of Kunduz killed 10 patients and 12 staff.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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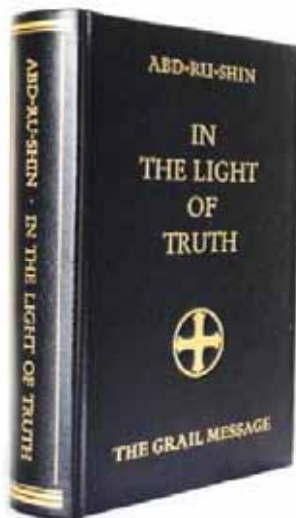
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18 Weekend, October 16-18, 2015

World **metro** NEWS

Public dissection of lion sparks outrage

DENMARK

Zoo accused of having a lack of compassion

A Danish zoo publicly dissected a year-old male lion Thursday, pulling out its blood-red organs to show a few hundred people — including children — an event met outside of Denmark with criticism and online protests.

Adult spectators brought scarfs to their noses to ward off the pungent smell as they watched the dissection, considered by many in this Scandinavian country of 5.6 million to be an educational program. The event was deliberately scheduled to take place during the annual fall school holidays.

A Brussels-based animal protection group, however, sharply criticized Odense Zoo for killing three healthy young lions this year.

One of central Denmark's

most popular tourist attractions, the Odense Zoo has done public dissections for 20 years. On Thursday, scores of children stood around a table where the zoo had displayed a stuffed lion cub next to the lion being dissected.

Odense Zoo employee Lotte Tranberg said the male lion and its two siblings were killed in February because they were getting sexually mature and could have started mating with each other and the zoo wanted to avoid inbreeding. They also could have killed each other because they would have been kept in the same enclosure, she said.

On Facebook, a few dozen people on Thursday accused the zoo and Denmark of having a lack of compassion. But on the zoo's Facebook page, ordinary Danes defended the dissection, asking English-speaking commentators whether they have ever been to a slaughterhouse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Children reacts to the dissection of a dead male lion in Odense Zoo, Denmark, on Thursday.

OLE FREDERIKSEN/POLFO VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTH AFRICA

House arrest for Oscar Pistorius

Oscar Pistorius, the double-amputee Olympic runner who shot his girlfriend to death on Valentine's Day 2013, can leave prison and move to house arrest next week, South Africa's Department of Corrections said Thursday.

A parole board at the prison where Pistorius has served nearly a year of his five-year sentence for culpable homicide — comparable to manslaughter — made the decision. It came after an initial ruling to release the athlete in August was cancelled at the last minute after intervention by the justice minister.

Pistorius was acquitted of murder last year for the shooting death of Reeva Steenkamp, but prosecutors have appealed that trial verdict and will seek a murder conviction again at South Africa's Supreme Court on Nov. 3.

The appeal will come just two weeks after Pistorius is freed next Tuesday. If Pistorius is convicted of murder by a panel of five judges at the appeal, he faces going back to prison for 15 years, the minimum sentence for murder in South Africa, which no longer has the death penalty.



Oscar Pistorius at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Pistorius has maintained he thought Steenkamp was an intruder in his Pretoria home and killed her by mistake. Prosecutors said he shot her intentionally during an argument after she had fled to a bathroom stall.

Pistorius, known as "Blade Runner" for his carbon-fiber running blades, gained worldwide fame when he ran against able-bodied athletes at the 2012 London Olympics, the first amputee runner to compete at the games.

The 28-year-old Pistorius is expected to serve his house arrest at his uncle's mansion in an upmarket suburb of Pretoria.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND

Cultural heritage sites threatened

A labour camp in Albania, a burial site in Chile and a Spanish mission in New Mexico are among a list of cultural heritage sites threatened by neglect, overdevelopment or social, political and economic change, a preservation group announced Thursday.

The World Monuments Fund's biennial list cited 50 sites from ancient times to modern times in 36 countries.

The New York-based preservation group began issuing its World Monuments Watch list in 1996 to call attention to important landmarks threatened around the world in an effort to promote awareness and action.

The organization listed the notorious Spac Prison in Albania for its advanced state of deterioration — a site the group said deserved to be saved as a

modern place of remembrance.

The General Cemetery of Santiago, a burial site of presidents and other luminaries, was singled out because of the deterioration it has suffered from numerous earthquakes and consequent neglect.

In citing the 1629 San Estevan Del Rey Mission, the organization said restoration of the national historic landmark in Acoma, New Mexico, was long overdue and in dire need of investment.

The list "includes many extraordinary places that deserve to be celebrated because they represent high moments of human culture. Worldwide concern would strengthen our ability to save them," fund President Bonnie Burnham said in a statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Lockerbie bombing suspects sought

Scottish prosecutors say they have identified two Libyans as suspects in the 1988 bombing of a passenger jet over the town of

Lockerbie, and want to interview them in Tripoli.

The unnamed Libyans are suspected of involvement with Abdel Baset al-Megrahi, the only person convicted in the attack. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CAM TUCKER DEFENDS BAUTISTA'S BAT FLIP



The home run wasn't just an ordinary home run. It was the biggest moment in Blue Jays history since Joe Carter. The celebration that followed was of sheer passion.

It was the bat flip to end all bat flips. Epic. Defiant. Oh, and of course it was controversial.

Jose Bautista, after launching the most important home run for the Toronto Blue Jays in more than 20 years and the most important of his career, stood at home plate and in a swift, strong motion, tossed the bat he used to drive his team to the American League Championship Series into the air before the customary trot around the bases at Rogers Centre.

It is now an iconic moment. Social media made sure of that.

It's been 22 years since Joe Carter won the World Series for the Blue Jays on a home run to left field at was then the Sky Dome, the shots of him leaping into the air with that uninhibited smile as he rounded his way into history still ingrained in the minds of Canadians. Pure joy. No bat flip, though.

Naturally, what Bautista did Wednesday was going to draw critics.

Heck, the benches cleared when the triumphant hero reached home plate. It's garnered discussion throughout North America, on social media and sports talk radio, and has been written about on ESPN and Deadspin.

Among the notables to oppose Bautista's action is Texas pitcher Sam Dyson, who threw right into Bautista's wheelhouse and promptly watched the ball sail into the delirious frenzy of blue and white beyond the left-field fence.

If we demand our professional athletes remain stoic and subdued in their greatest moments, the fun and emotion is removed from the experience.



FLIPPING CONTROVERSIAL Jose Bautista's extravagant bat toss was fitting because he led the Jays to an epic comeback Wednesday, writes Cam Tucker. DARREN CALABRESE / THE CANADIAN PRESS

yond the left-field fence.

Of Bautista's bat flip, Dyson told reporters in Toronto: "Just kind of respect the game a little more."

And, "He's doing stuff that kids do in Wiffle ball games and backyard baseball."

Look, perhaps it would be justifiable to take issue with Bautista's bat flip if he busted that out in the middle of May against a team like the Oakland Athletics in the seventh inning of a blowout game. Forget disrespectful. Then it would just look silly.

But this was Game 5 of the American League Division Series, winner take all. The Blue Jays trailed the series 2-0, looking dead and done, only to come roaring back to life, resurrecting fans who may have thought it was all over when the team departed for Texas for Games 3 and 4.

The three-run Bautista dinger broke open a 3-3 deadlock in the deciding game, providing

the climax to the emotional — understatement — and now famous seventh inning.

It involved one of the strangest plays, when Toronto's Canadian catcher Russell Martin went to throw the ball back to the pitcher, hitting the bat of Rangers' Shin-Soo Choo — a live ball — leading to the go-ahead run for Texas. A lengthy umpires' review solidified the run, angering the Toronto crowd.

With the lead and nine outs away from advancing, the Rangers then committed three errors in the bottom half of the inning, leading to the Toronto comeback and Bautista's dinger. The benches cleared — twice. This wasn't ordinary. This was playoff baseball, if you'll pardon the expression, on steroids.

And the Bautista home run wasn't just an ordinary home run. He's hit plenty of those in his career with the Blue Jays.

It was the biggest moment

in Blue Jays history since Joe Carter.

The celebration that followed was of sheer passion.

Sure, there are boundaries to celebrations. But how is Bautista tossing the bat any different from the New England Patriots' Rob Gronkowski spiking the football like he's trying to bury it?

If we demand our professional athletes remain stoic and subdued in their greatest moments, the fun and emotion, which is what October baseball is all about, is removed from the experience.

Robots don't play the game. Humans do. And humans tend to celebrate great accomplishments.

And that's why people shouldn't flip out over Bautista's bat flip.

Cam Tucker is a Vancouver-based sports reporter for Metro. He tweets at @CamTucker_Metro.

metroview

Government approach to science reads — sadly — like satire



John Dupuis
For Metro

It's been a great month for Canadian science. Queen's University physicist Arthur McDonald won the Nobel Prize for, as the citation reads, "the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that neutrinos have mass." Curiosity-driven science done at the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory; pure science done in Canada by a Canadian.

Of course, pro forma congratulations were issued by the prime minister's office.

But sometimes satire can reflect reality better than anything true. Consider the recent Beaverton headline, "Harper left wondering who let Nobel Prize winner Arthur McDonald talk to the media." It's not literally true. McDonald did his fair share of interviews talking about his work and stressing the importance of the government balancing basic and applied research. He didn't explicitly mention our government, but we all knew what he meant.

The Nobel Committee has a history of making subtle political points with their choices. It's not hard to imagine they saw this election as an opportunity to make a point about basic science while acknowledging a deserving Canadian.

Back in 2013, Canada's National Research Council abandoned its balance of pure and applied research for a nearly exclusive focus on industry-driven work. As the new director at the time said,

"Scientific discovery is not valuable unless it has commercial value." That's not how you discover neutrinos, or the principles of integrated circuits that underlie our entire technological society.

Another headline too good to be true, this from the Syrup Trap: "Government of Canada pledges \$30 million to ignoring science." Again, we hear a deeper truth. From muzzling scientists, to dismantling the research libraries at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, to cancelling the long-form census, to firing thousands of scientists and shuttering dozens of research programs, this government has been dead-set against the principles of open inquiry in science and society.

And then there's "Tory candidate Sabrina Zuniga says ground will absorb oil spills." Oh, sorry, that's not satire. A Conservative candidate actually said that. It's hard to believe someone could be both so ignorant and contemptuous of public well-being.

Is this the kind of country you want? Before you make your choice at the ballot box, research your preferred candidate's views on science and open inquiry. And after the election, contact your new (or re-elected) MP to say you support evidence-based decision-making in public policy.

John Dupuis is a science librarian at York University. He blogs about science, libraries and politics at Confessions of a Science Librarian and tweets @dupuisj.

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The great films that got away

GUILLERMO DEL TORO

Crimson Peak director has turned down big projects

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Few modern directors raise the hair on the back of your neck like Guillermo del Toro. From the eerie Pale Man character in Pan's Labyrinth to the deadly mechanical scarab of Cronos, he has trained viewers to expect the unexpected.

His latest, *Crimson Peak*, is a spooky thriller starring Jessica Chastain, Mia Wasikowska and Tom Hiddleston that del Toro describes as an "almost classical gothic romance ghost story," before adding, "it has two or three scenes that are really, really disturbing in a very, very modern way." Also expect a fest for the eyes. "I'm not giving you eye candy," he says. "It's eye protein."

Films like *Pacific Rim*, *The Devil's Backbone* and *Hellboy* have made del Toro a fan favourite but for every film he makes there is Internet buzz about the movies he didn't make.

"I'm famous for the ones I turned down," he told me a few years ago in a candid conversation on my radio show.

Indeed a quick Google search reveals a list of hit films he said no to.

The script for *Se7en* came his way but was judged to be too



Mia Wasikowska stars as Edith Cushing in Guillermo del Toro's *Crimson Peak*, opening this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

cynical for del Toro's tastes. Horror hits *Blade: Trinity* and *AVP: Alien vs. Predator* went to directors David S. Goyer and Paul W.S. Anderson respectively when Guillermo declined because he was too busy getting his version of *Hellboy* to the screen.

I asked him about that period. "To get *Hellboy* made you turned down..." "A lot," he said, finishing my sentence.

More recently he walked away from *The Hobbit*, a decision he called "extremely painful," and took a rain check on *Star Wars: Episode VII The Force Awakens* because "basically I have so much

stuff already of my own, and I'm pursuing stuff that I'm generating already."

One project has kept the del Toro fan base purring for years, a proposed version of *Frankenstein*.

"This is the one that I pursue and drop. It's daunting. This is the most important story in the history of narrative. The most important book in my life is *Frankenstein* and the most important movie is James Whale's *Frankenstein*."

"It's like that girl you have been dating for 35 years and you can't say, 'Would you marry me?'"

"I read the book and realized nobody has done the book. It is amazing to me that nobody has done the emotions that are in the book. The way I want to treat the one I do is not to be slavish to the book but create the same effect the book has which is the incredible journey of the creature."

I ask if he has any second thoughts about the films he turned down.

"Every movie I have left behind or not done I don't regret at all but there's one that I can't help but wonder (about), *Prisoner of Azkaban*. I really loved

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Beeba Boys ★★★

Freeheld ★★★

Sleeping With Other People ★★

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the books. I don't love all the movies but at that stage I saw the first two movies and they were a little too happy for me. I thought, 'Do I really want to go on and try to change the entire universe like that?'"

The job of directing the third

Harry Potter movie eventually went to one of del Toro's friends, Alfonso Cuarón. "When I saw that movie I told Alfonso, 'I love you and I hate you. You made a great movie.' That's the only one that went away that I will always wonder about."



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TV SABOTAGE**Street artists word bomb walls of Homeland set**

Graffiti artists hired to work on the set of *Homeland* duped the popular series, painting Arabic slogans criticizing the show on walls seen in the background.

In the episode aired in the U.S. Sunday, star Claire Danes can be seen walking by slogans including "Homeland is racist."

Berlin graffiti artist Stone told *The Associated Press* that he and two friends initially weren't going to take the job, but then decided instead to use it to express their opinions of *Homeland*.

The caper was pulled off so well that even *Homeland* producer Alex Gansa gave the artists his grudging respect. "We wish we'd caught these images before they made it to air," he said. "However, as *Homeland* always strives to be subversive in its own right and a stimulus for conversation, we can't help but admire this act of artistic sabotage." *THE ASSOCIATED PRESS*

**THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN**

We've been hit by election fever. I'm not talking about the 850,000 Canadians who cast their votes on the first day of advance polls — a 90 per cent increase from 2008's federal election. I'm referring to my couch, where for the last couple of weeks my partner Simon and I watched election-themed movies.

Three of these films, *Wag the Dog*, *Primary Colors* and *Bulworth*, hit theatres in 1998, while the fourth, *The Candidate*, came out in '72. They all reflect their time's dissatisfaction with political culture and how the cam-

If you believe the movies, a political campaign is as bad for a person's diet as it is for their moral character

paigning process erodes their values — the '98 trio with dark, sardonic comedy and *The Candidate* with hardly any humour at all.

There is only one singular common denominator, however, that serves this column: the food. It seems that candidates, at least fictional American ones, eat like crap. The travel and grind of campaigning means buckets of chicken, cold pizza, plates of barbecued ribs and Krispy Kreme doughnuts.

I've never seen Simon more devoted to this column than when he argued that we should eat KFC, for "research." I ate it often growing up, not so much the chicken as plates of their French fries covered in gravy and mixed up with their neon green coleslaw; a combination that I think would be my death row meal. Since I feared it wouldn't live up to my grease-tinted nostalgia — and having just survived a gluttonous Thanksgiving weekend — I refused.



But I caved on his request for the Krispy Kremes. We drove to an outpost on Monday night and picked up half a dozen of the classic glazed variety. While he ate five and I ate one, I wondered if, when the cameras weren't rolling, Harper, Trudeau, Mulcair and May have made doughnut pit-stops during their federal election campaigning.

I hope they didn't, because it seems as though — if you believe the movies — that a

campaign is as bad for a person's diet as it is for their moral character. Not once did we stumble across a film where an election bolsters a person's character, provides nourishment for the values of the great democracies they seek to serve, or paints anyone as being immune to the corrupting pull of power. "This is the price you pay to lead," John Travolta as Jack Stanton as Bill Clinton, says in *Primary Colors* — the best election

film we watched. "You don't think Lincoln was a whore before he was president? He had to tell his stories and smile his back-country grin. He did that so one day he'd have the opportunity to stand before the nation and appeal to our better nature. That's where the bullshit stops."

On Oct. 19, voters head to the polls and, in true Canadian fashion, we decided to watch American movies about American elections and American politicians — although our federal election has had its fair share of Hollywood-like scandalous moments: The Conservative MP who pulled out of the race after a video surfaced of him peeing into a mug; the Liberal MP who pulled out after old, offensive tweets were dug up; and Alex Johnstone, the NDP candidate — and a school trustee no less — who confessed she'd only just learned what Auschwitz was.

But nothing as salacious as Donald Trump or Ben Carson, whose comments about the Nazis make Johnstone's seem positively enlightened.

God bless Canada.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

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Forbes announces richest YouTubers

INTERNET

Gamer, pranksters, dancing violinist top list

YouTube's top-earning celebrity is a 25-year-old video-game-playing jokester who took in \$12 million over the past year.

Forbes magazine says Sweden's Felix Kjellberg, better known by his handle PewDiePie, tops its first list of people who have spun short online videos into huge piles of cash.

YouTube stars make money mainly by getting paid to interact with products on their channels and sharing ad revenue with YouTube. Some also star in movies, write books, go on tour, sell music or cut endorsement deals. They're a hit with younger audiences and brands trying to reach the next generation



Felix Kjellberg, a.k.a. PewDiePie, took in \$12 million in the last year. GETTY IMAGES

Stirling ranked fourth with \$6 million. Tied for fifth were comedians Rhett and Link — made of Rhett McLaughlin and Charles Lincoln Neal III — and video game commentator Olajide Olatunji, known as KSI, with \$4.5 million.

Make-up artist Michelle Phan was seventh at \$3 million.

The No. 8 slot was a three-way tie at \$2.5 million shared by comedian Lilly Singh, or Superwoman; prankster Roman Atwood; and chef Rossana Pansino.

Forbes is best known for its list of billionaires and the list appearing in its Nov. 2 issue marks its first stab at ranking YouTube stars.

It says it measured earnings before management fees and taxes and came up with the figures based on data from online sources such as Nielsen, IMDb and interviews with managers, lawyers, industry insiders and the stars themselves.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

of consumers.

Two acts tied for second on Forbes' list, both earning \$8.5 million: comedy prankster duo Smosh — Ian Hecox and Anthony Padilla — and the Fine Brothers, Benny and Rafi Fine.

Dancing violinist Lindsey



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The Ryder psyche



INTERVIEW

Actress talks commune living and The Banality of Evil

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York



Winona Ryder has had her brushes with infamy and trouble, but when we speak, she's gabby and funny, in part because she's really into her new film *Experimenter*, a semi-experimental biopic about Stanley Milgram (played by Peter Sarsgaard), the psychologist who infamously tested people's willingness to follow orders, no matter how inhumane they may be.

Ryder plays Milgram's devoted wife Sasha, though she's not just a typical movie spouse. It's a chance to work with Sarsgaard and director Michael Al-

mereyda (of the playful Ethan Hawke Hamlet), both longtime friends.

I know you had a fairly atypical childhood, growing up on a commune in California...

When I say I lived in a commune for four years, people think I was in a cult. (Laughs) And it was not a cult at all. It was seven families in the Redwoods in Mendocino. But my parents were definitely on the intellectual side of the hippie movement. They were more sort of observers. They were activists and stuff, but it's interesting because in some sort of unconscious rebellion I stayed away from a lot of those things.

Your form of rebellion would be doing the things most people do as rebellion. I never do yoga. We did it when we were kids. I don't do it now. I probably should. I don't do drugs. Drugs were

not encouraged, but my parents did have the thing of, "Don't get them on the street. If you're really curious please come to us." I think that's a good attitude to have. But I didn't want to. (Laughs).

That's odd, since Timothy Leary was your godfather.

This is his watch. (Shows watch with no numbers on it) But he was more of a godfather to me. He was very protective. He never let anyone do anything around me. He would take me to baseball games, help me do my homework. He was the opposite of what you'd think Timothy Leary was around me. But there were a lot of people around then. It's a shame because at the time I didn't know who any of them were. They were just grown-ups. I later found out one of them was John Lennon. (Laughs).

Growing up, I imagine you were exposed to the stories



Drugs were not encouraged, but my parents did have the thing of, 'Don't get them on the street.'

Winona Ryder, on growing up with hippie parents

of and ideas around Stanley Milgram, as well as Philip Zimbardo and Hannah Arendt.

I remember the first time I found out about him. It was from the Peter Gabriel song *We Do What We're Told*, from the *Us* album. I was driving with my dad and I was like, "What does this mean?" And he told me. And I'm a big reader. I've read about *The Banality of Evil* and about Eichmann, because I lost family in the Holocaust.

BIOPIC

An experimental role for Sarsgaard

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York

Peter Sarsgaard has played all over the place, from shy (*Shattered Glass*) to manic (*Green Lantern*) to killers (the third season of *The Killing*). But he says he's closer — in a sense — to Stanley Milgram, the noted and controversial social psychologist he plays in the biopic *Experimenter*. Milgram's most famous work found himself exploring obedience to authority by having average test subjects administer what they believed were shocks to strangers. In fact, it was all fake, there to see how far they would go. Sarsgaard would never do anything like that, but he did relate to the way Milgram was detached and cerebral, which also describes the film.

The film uses unusual techniques. For one, there's old-timey rear-screen projection when people are driving. What were those like for you acting?

I've acted on stage. (Laughs) When you're on stage you're used to a different kind of reality. It's like actors who've acted on green screen. They

get used to that. Obviously the most easy to understand form of acting is two people in a room. You don't see the camera and you're having a conversation the way you'd have in life. A Cassavetes film is like that, although there's a kind of poetry in that. It's not the reality you and I are sitting in.

It's a heightened reality.

Yeah. Actors typically like doing that kind of thing. This I really enjoyed doing. I'm a cerebral person, but I always knew the film needed something else beyond the ideas that surrounded it. I was really interested in a guy who could be — by everything I read — so dispassionate about what he was observing. This is a guy whose background was a Jew who grew up in New York in the '40s. Certainly some of the experiments of obedience to authority were influenced by what happened in Nazi Germany, for sure. But he never made that absolutely clear. He never said that was the point of his tests. There was never a political agenda. There was the dispassion of a trained scientist. I thought that was interesting to play as an actor.



Peter Sarsgaard stars in *Experimenter*. GETTY IMAGES

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'The Kanye West of horror'

INTERVIEW

Jack Black
talks playing
R.L. Stine in
Goosebumps

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood



Before we begin our interview, Jack Black lets it be known he'll be doing it fully reclining on a long stretch of sofa, staring at the ceiling.

"This is awkward, but it's the way it has to be," he explains.

Black may be a bit exhausted from his work as a fictionalized version of author R.L. Stine in *Goosebumps*, an egomaniacal, reclusive author whose devilish creations come to life and run amok on a small Delaware town.

What do you think about the idea of being a recluse? Ever been tempted?

I am a bit of a recluse. I can relate to that part of Stine's personality.

There's part of that that just comes with the territory. You get in your Hollywood bubble and you try not to leave because you don't want to have selfies and autographs. So yeah, I get it.

But you've never gone full-on Howard Hughes?

No. I don't have those kinds of demons inside of me. At least not yet. Give me time.

I'll be bottling my piss in a few decades, I'm sure. If I live that long.

You're working with a lot of monsters who are not actually physically there.
Yeah, lots of special effects monsters and computer-generated animation.

Aside from King Kong, how much experience had you had with that?

Well, that's all I needed. King Kong was the king of all special effects movies. It wasn't just King Kong that I was pretending to see, it was thousands of prehistoric insects and lizards all over the place. You just had to imagine the whole movie. Every shot of King Kong had a special effect in it. It was mind-boggling.

So this was kind of easy in comparison. I was primed and ready.

There are not as many special effects in this one, is what you're saying.

I mean, there's tons in this movie, too. Those big set pieces are amazingly good, especially when you consider the difference in budget between this and *King Kong*, which was probably three times as expensive.

Rob Letterman is a wizard. He knows that world so well, and he picked his moments wisely where to spend the money, you know?

You're playing this at a particular level of bigness. How do you decide for each role how big to get?

I don't really think about the size of the dramatic levels.

I mean, yeah, there's giant creatures all over the place and the world is fantastical, so you can get away with a little more bombast and high drama in your performance, I suppose, but I was really just thinking about this character who is the genius writer who has these dark secrets and dark demons that he keeps hidden from the world. And for some reason that just said Orson Welles to me.

That seemed like the perfect person to model it after, so I watched *Citizen Kane* 30 times and then went to the set.

Did you discover anything about *Citizen Kane* you never noticed before?

That it's a f—ing great movie. That's no newsflash, though. Everybody says it's the best movie ever made. I discovered that Jack White has covered two songs from the movie.

I can't remember which songs exactly, but Google "Jack White *Citizen Kane*" and you'll see.

Orson Welles aside, I did feel a lot of *Tenacious D* in this performance, that particular bravado and self-regard.

Right! Yes! I didn't think about that, but there was a narcissism there that was consistent with *Tenacious D*.

He's the Kanye West of horror.

Had you read the books?

No, I didn't. I just read the script and flipped over that, and for that reason I don't think there's any need to have read the books to enjoy the movie.

I am a bit of a recluse. I can relate to that part of Stine's personality.
Jack Black



Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Ryan Lee and Odeya Rush star in Columbia Pictures' *Goosebumps*. Black plays the creator of the series with a lot of self-regard and bravado. HANDOUT

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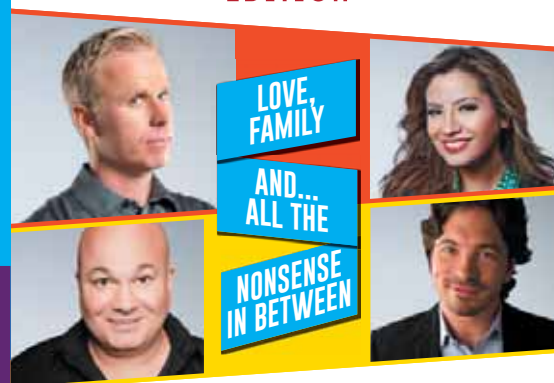
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Director pulls the trigger on gangs

BEEBA BOYS

Deepa Mehta explores Vancouver's Sikh gangsters

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

"The whole point of doing work is to surprise yourself and others," says Deepa Mehta. The director of art house hits like *Water*, *Bollywood/Hollywood* and *Midnight's Children* will certainly raise a few eyebrows with her new film *Beeba Boys*.

The movie is a violent look at a Vancouver gang of second and third generation Indo-Canadian criminals known as the *Beeba Boys*. It features the first car chase in any of her films and certainly contains more gunplay and violence than any other of her personal, introspective movies.

"I've always been a sucker for gangster films," she says. "Tarantino, eat your heart out."

The Toronto-based Mehta first became aware of Vancouver's Sikh gangs from a CBC documentary. It's a violent culture she says the rest of the country is largely unaware of — "after you cross the Rockies it's like everybody has amnesia about what happens in our own country" — but one that gripped her.

"As a director it is really exciting for me to explore a world I don't know much about. It is a learning process. Exploring this world of Beeba



A documentary on Vancouver's Sikh gangs inspired Deepa Mehta's film *Beeba Boys*. HANDOUT



The story calls for gangsters and of course they are not going to be carrying lollipops in their hands.

Director Deepa Mehta

Boys, of gangsters, the search for identity, the desire to be seen, the looking for acceptance is a world that is very familiar to me but the way it is told is completely unfamiliar. That was exciting.

"They're not like the Mafia. They're not at all like the Triads. They're not at all like the Yakuza and they're not

like the Hell's Angels. They are very culturally based and I found that fascinating."

Whether it is a period piece or a modern day film, Mehta's work turns the camera on her community and the underpinnings of that culture.

Critics have expressed surprise at *Beeba Boys* because when you put a gun in some-

body's hand in a Deepa Mehta movie that's what draws all the attention.

"I'm just happy they are talking about the film," she says.

"The ones who want to focus on the guns will focus on the guns and that's fine. Each to their own. The ones who know my work and wish to see something that is not just on the surface will see that it is a continuation of my work."

"Thematically it is a continuation of everything I've done because it is a film about identity but the story is different and the story calls for gangsters and of course they are not going to be carrying lollipops in their hands. Let's get real."



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Idris Elba trades in sexy for scary

NEW FILM

Actor takes on violent, gritty role in *Beasts of No Nation*

With legions of fans calling for him to be the next James Bond, Idris Elba welcomed a chance to go against type and play a ruthless warlord in *Beasts of No Nation*.

"It's a compliment but I always get told, 'Oh, you're handsome. Yeah, sexy Idris,' and I was like, 'This guy's not sexy. I want to play him,'" said the strapping star at the Toronto International Film Festival.

"There's definitely, if you like, a cosmetic approach to this character that I hadn't done before, I think," continued the London native, whose other characters have included a drug lord in HBO's *The Wire*, a detective in the British series *Luther* and the title role in *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*.

"(If audiences), let's say my lady fans, will watch this film like, 'Oh my God' — job done, as far as I'm concerned. That's what I tried to do."

In *Beasts of No Nation*, available to stream on Netflix starting Friday, Elba plays the savage yet charismatic Commandant.

He's the chain-smoking head of a group of mercenary fighters during a civil war in an unnamed West African country.

Abraham Attah stars as the young protagonist, who flees his besieged refugee village only to be captured by Commandant's crew.

Emmy Award winner Cary Fukunaga (*True Detective*, season 1) wrote and directed the film, based on the novel by Nigerian author Uzodinma Iweala.

It took him 10 years to get the film made. He shot it in Ghana as soon as he wrapped



Idris Elba plays the savage yet charismatic Commandant in *Beasts of No Nation*, available on Netflix today. CONTRIBUTED

on *True Detective*.

Fukunaga unflinchingly delves into the horrors of civil war in some scenes, depicting brutal violence inflicted by child soldiers.

While such scenes might be tough to digest, he says they're nothing compared to the real thing.

"What I know of war, the little I've experienced in the conflict zones I've been to and the research I've done, death is so much more gruesome than any-

thing you've ever seen in a movie or even in documentaries," said the director of 2011's *Jane Eyre* and 2009's *Sin Nombre*.

"What I show in the film just barely creates the nausea that you would feel, the smell of death that you'd feel in a real place."

Fukunaga heard some filmmakers at the Venice Film Festival walked out during a screening of his film, and conceded it "maybe pushes, for some people, too far."

"But it's what I needed to

show without it feeling, to me at least, false about the experience that these children have to go through, the things these children are witnessing, the desensitization of these kids, even the adults who participate in these kinds of conflicts."

Elba said he studied the behaviour and tactics of some dictators but he didn't base Commandant on anyone in particular.

Rather, he envisioned him like a preacher who rallies up his troops with sermons and chants.

"The

“It's a compliment but I always get told, 'Oh, you're handsome.' ... and I was like, 'This guy's not sexy. I want to play him.'”

Idris Elba on taking the role in *Beasts of No Nation*

Commandant, although he's a military head, is the spiritual head as well, and that was a really interesting revelation for me," said Elba.

"It was like, 'Aha.' It was actually a way in for me as an actor, because I was like, 'I don't want to do a moustache-twiddling ... bad guy.'"

Elba said his father's Sierra Leone

heritage, and his family's experience with the civil war there, was another reason he wanted to do the film.

"There was a massive personal attachment to the story in the first place," he said.

"But the second, from a producer's point of view, I really wanted a story like this, films like this, to have the light of day — for people to see that through storytelling, you can, without being bashy on the head, you can give people insight into a very complex world."

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When one Patel seeks another

INTERVIEW

One man's journey to find a dame with the right name

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



When he was about to turn 30 years old, Ravi Patel kind of freaked out.

Not only did the Hollywood-based Indian-American actor break-up with his longtime girlfriend (which his traditional parents never knew about), but after joining the clan on a trip back to India, he accepted the challenge to find an Indian wife — and as custom states, she must also be a Patel.

Captured by his co-directing sister Geeta in *Meet the Patels*, we caught up with the siblings to talk about Ravi's romantic global journey.

When did you start to begin filming Ravi's journey to find a wife?

Ravi: We had a trip to India and Geeta had just finished her previous documentary (Project Kashmir) and she wanted to learn how to use a camera (and thought) I'll film the family trip.

Geeta: I'm just focusing and learning how to turn the camera on and he's going 'don't you think it's weird that mom and dad don't even know about Audrey (and now) they have this date they're trying to set me up on — don't you realize how weird our culture is?' Ravi: Somewhere we started to see something in there. We didn't know what it was. It was really just fun.

Your parents' personalities really shine through. I love your father's line 'after 35 years, your mother still doesn't know me and you want to know someone in

two years?' — which I think really speaks to today's generation.

Ravi: That's another thing about this movie — it's really allowed us to see our parents for how wise they are. Its true, the Western notion of relationships is basically figure out as much as you can — make sure every I is dotted, every T is crossed — once you feel really secure, then lets move forward. And (my dad) is like, no, that's the whole point of a relationship. What you need to do is just get to a point where you both decide you're willing to commit.

And it clearly works because the other way around...

Ravi: Ya, 50 per cent divorce rate!

Meet the Patels opens in theatres this Friday.



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Dunham takes swing at Sixties

TELEVISION

Move over, Mad Men: This show is about strong women

The writer and star of *Girls* is returning to HBO with her new comedy *Max*, which will take viewers back to the feminist movement of the 1960s.

Since 2012, Lena Dunham's series has given us an insight into the lives of Generation Y, with its many challenges, via four New York friends. With *Max* she takes us back to 1963, the time of the baby boomers and the second wave feminist movement.

Second-wave feminism

Her new heroine, Maxine Woodruff, is an ambitious writer, but works for magazines. She stumbles into the heart of a vibrant women's rights movement.



Lena Dunham. GETTY IMAGES

Lena Dunham will direct the pilot of this series, whose setting is evocative of *Mad Men*.

Director's chair

Dunham is no stranger to directing as she has already directed 15 episodes of *Girls* as well as the full-length movie *Tiny Furniture*.

She will leave the leading role to Lisa Joyce, an actress who has appeared in *Boardwalk Empire*, another HBO series.

Second-wave feminism

Lena Dunham is an artist committed to women's issues.

It is no secret that the New Yorker is a self-declared feminist.

In September, she launched the newsletter *Lenny*.

The weekly publication, which covers subjects such as feminism, fashion and politics, recently featured an open letter from actress Jennifer Lawrence about the pay differences between men and women in Hollywood.

Her commitment is also clear in her autobiography *Not That Kind of Girl*, which was released in 2014, and in *Girls*, which will see its fifth and possibly next to final season begin on HBO in early 2016.

AFP

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Shaking down the American Dream

FILM

99 Homes star wants people to wake up

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood



Andrew Garfield's latest film — post-housing crash drama 99 Homes — has given him lots to think about. We sat down with Garfield to discuss capitalism, greed, and human nature.

What was your perspective on the crisis in 2009 or so?

To be honest my expertise doesn't lie in the ins and outs of the economic crisis and the crash. I know that in the U.K. the Occupy movement was just as strong as it was and is in the U.S. They camped out on the steps of St. Paul's and there was a big debate about where they were coming from and whether they had anything to say or not. I believe they absolutely did, and do. As far as I can see, they were fighting for a reformation

of a sick system, a sick and corrupt system that breeds selfishness and greed and separateness.

Can an economic system have a survival instinct?

Well, it's fear of change, right? What would happen if it wasn't this system? We would have to start again. And we don't like different, no. "Why would we want to go with different? This works! It does f—ing work, ignore the people who are dying." Ignore the people who are getting hooked on

drugs because they can't bear the pain of living a life unsupported by the American dream that claims they can be whatever the f— they want to be, which is bulls— ... We're not supposed to be whatever we want to be, we're supposed to be ourselves. Each person has a very specific thing to do on this planet. That's my belief. You're not going to be Kanye West, you're not going to be Jay-Z. You're going to be you if you f—ing work at you. Why would you want to be anyone else?



Andrew Garfield, front, in housing crash drama. CONTRIBUTED



Goosebumps

Director: Rob Letterman
Starring: Jack Black, Odeya Rush, Dylan Minnette

Upset about moving from a big city to a small town, a teenager finds a silver lining when he meets the beautiful girl living right next door. But every silver lining has a cloud and Hannah has a mysterious dad.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 79% Audience: +95%



Crimson Peak

Director: Guillermo del Toro
Starring: Charlie Hunnam, Jessica Chastain

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 71% Audience: +97%



MYSTERY & SUSPENSE

99 Homes

Director: Ramin Bahrani
Starring: Andrew Garfield, Michael Shannon

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 90% Audience: 83%



DRAMA

Beeba Boys

Director: Deepa Mehta
Starring: Sarah Allen, Randeep Hooda

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 40% Audience: +95%



Bridge of Spies

Director: Steven Spielberg
Starring: Tom Hanks, Mark Rylance

Tom Hanks stars as the American attorney tasked with negotiating the release of a U-2 spy plane pilot who was shot down over Russia at the height of the Cold War in this historical drama. Steven Spielberg and Mark E. Platt produce a film written by Matt Charman.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 90% Audience: +98%

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UPDATE

\$75,000 brothel stay probed

Authorities are retracing Lamar Odom's \$75,000 visit to the brothel where he was found unconscious as the former NBA and reality TV star remains hospitalized and the Kardashians spar with the brothel owner over media attention surrounding the ordeal.

There's been no official word on Odom's condition, but the Rev. Jesse Jackson visited him Wednesday and said he's on life support.

Odom's grandmother, Florence Odom, declined to comment on his status Thursday, saying she was becoming distressed at unfounded speculation that her grandson would be taken off life support. His father, Joe Odom, also declined to discuss his condition.

Nye County law enforcement and brothel officials said Odom's incident was a rarity for the Love Ranch, in the rural community of Crystal, and have summed it up as a possible drug-related medical episode.

"We're going to be looking at the entire situation, how he actually came to be where he is now," Nye County Sheriff Sharon Wehrly said at a Wednesday news conference.

Odom was found unconscious at the brothel Tuesday with white and reddish substances coming from his nose and mouth. His breathing was consistent, but he seemed to be in a deep sleep-like state, Hunter said. He was to be flown by helicopter about 130 km south-east to Las Vegas but had to be taken by ambulance because he couldn't fit into the aircraft.

Authorities took a blood sample from Odom to find out if he overdosed on drugs or alcohol, but the results could take several weeks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A reality TV relationship that had no shortage of drama



KHLOE AND LAMAR

Their marriage fell short, but she's by his hospital bedside

Khloe Kardashian was a reality TV star. Lamar Odom was a star athlete. Their whirlwind romance was tailor-made for titillation.

They met at a party and, within four weeks, went from giddy lovers to newlyweds, with their wedding showcased in 2009 on *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*. Four years and a spinoff reality show later, they were headed to a divorce that she instigated.

The relationship, hatched in the glittery wealth and designer-label cocoon of the family's E! television series, became shadowed by his problems and her unhappiness.

But Kardashian, who has said that she never stopped caring, rushed to the hospitalized Odom's side after he was found unconscious at a Nevada brothel. And, with their divorce not completed, she may yet hold decisions about his medical care in her hands: Nevada law gives a spouse top decision-making

power when a patient is incapacitated.

Though the divorce proceedings plodded along, Kardashian never really let go. Odom and their failed relationship, and what she considers his failings, "will weigh on me for the rest of my life," she said on *Keeping Up* last season.

"That wasn't what I wanted, so for the rest of my life I'm going to deal with that and worry about him and think about him and want just to protect him," she said.

Initially, however, it was the couple's playfulness that was strenuously on display in *Khloe & Lamar*, which launched in 2011 and aired for two seasons.

But frustrations set in. They were unable to conceive a child, something that apparently weighed on both of them. Instead, they produced a perfume called *Unbreakable Bond*.

Their marriage became increasingly defined by his personal and career woes. His NBA career, which included winning two championship seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers, was crumbling. A 2011 trade to the Dallas Mavericks left him depressed, and a stint with the Clippers proved the end of his NBA career.

A month later, he was arrested for investigation of drunken driving in Los Angeles, later pleading no contest and receiving three years' probation.

And on an episode of *Keeping Up* that aired last season, Kardashian told Brody Jenner she was keeping a painful secret of infidelity to herself.

"No one knew until he got so sloppy and started messing with all those girls and all those girls want to do is their 10 seconds of fame. I can't really talk about it. I'm going to start crying," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Khloe Kardashian and Lamar Odom in happier times in 2009. Inset: Kylie Jenner, second from left, Kourtney Kardashian and Kim Kardashian exit through a back door after visiting Odom at Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center on Thursday in Las Vegas.

CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE; INSET: DAVID BECKER/GETTY IMAGES

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READY TO PARTY

The longest federal election campaign in Canadian history is finally nearing its close. Celebrate the winners, the losers, the haircuts — and most importantly, the end!

Where every big cheese is a winner

Devon Scoble
For Metro Canada

Politicians come and go, and no matter who wins the top prize on Monday night, they'll likely disappoint us at some point.

But a well-executed cheeseboard (and a good selection of wine and beer to wash it down) always delivers.

Just ask Shawn Rusich, founder and director of Butter Public Relations, a boutique PR firm focused on food, hospitality, and lifestyle clients.

He's spent the last 15 years working with some of the industry's top professionals, including Martha Stewart, Giada de Laurentiis and Mario Batali, and he's shared his tips for hosting a winning election results party.

Follow Rusich's suggestions for a politically inspired cheeseboard that sets a light mood and encourages cheesy humour:



For the Conservatives

"Like any blue cheese, the Conservative Party has become something of an acquired taste in recent years," says Rusich. If you're not a fan, even a little will leave a bad taste in your mouth. The Cons don't support proportional representation, but it's essential for a democratic cheeseboard, so grab a big chunk of **Bleu Bénédictin**. "It's arguably Canada's most famous blue cheese," he says, "and it crumbles as easily as the Conservatives' approval rating!"

Pair it with: A late-harvest **Riesling** or your favourite ice wine.



For the Liberals

"Canada's oldest political party deserves a mature cheese — preferably one with a little sex appeal, like its floppy haired leader," says Rusich. **Bothwell Red Wine Extra Old Cheddar** is a celebratory choice that reflects the Grits' recent gains in the polls.

Pair it with: A bold **Cab Sauv** from Niagara.



For the NDP

Once-upon-a-federal-election, Rusich would have suggested a strong, unique "love-or-hate type of cheese" with an orange rind, like **Oka Classique**. But for Mulcair's NDP, he suggests "a more palatable **Oka Light**" with 30 per cent less fat.

Pair it with: An unoaked **Chardonnay**.



For the Greens

"We can all agree that Elizabeth May has helped the Green Party appear less hippy dippy and more multi-platform than ever thought before," says Rusich. "We can also all agree that it's still a grassroots underdog." **Farm House Heidi** is a Gruyere-like cheese with rich flavour and a pleasantly grassy taste that comes from May's home province, B.C.

Pair it with: A dark and heavy stout, like **Mill Street's Oatmeal Stout**.



For the Bloc Québécois

"**Laliberté** is a Canadian Grand Prix of Cheese winner, and a creamy companion to any cheese board," says Rusich. "In fact, it's so good it might be best to separate it from the rest of your election-themed cheeses — to protect its unique and independent identity, of course."

Pair it with: A bubbly, like **Henry of Pelham's Cuvée Catharine Rosé Brut**.



For the undecided

Bummed that your favourite party lost? Sad about our first-past-the-post system? Disappointed in yourself for not casting a ballot at all? Canadian elections leave plenty of room for disappointment, but there is a homegrown (temporary) cure for your electoral woes, and you don't have to wait for the next campaign to try it: whisky. Rusich recommends **Tap 357 Maple Whisky** to soften the political blows.

Pair it with: Bitter tears.

SET THE MOOD

Election night fever

Whether incoming results have you feeling Helpless or make you want to Rant and Roar, Rusich suggests a playlist with the best of Canadiana on repeat. Opt for gentle lighting, "create a relaxing atmosphere," says Rusich, "because nothing gets people more fired up than politics!"

It's fun asking guests to ac-

cessorize with the colours of their preferred party, or to play election prediction games with Oscars-style scorecards says Rusich, but don't push for specifics. "Voting can be very a personal choice for some and they may feel uncomfortable divulging (their) decisions in a room full of people."

DEVON SCOBLE



metroLIFE
EDITOR'S PICK



DRESS UP FOR THE NONPARTISAN Don't want to wear your political colours on your sleeve? Two moments from the 2015 election stand out as possible party night themes.

In August, a group of Boy Scouts stole the show at a campaign event for Conservative Leader Stephen Harper in Campbell River, B.C. To get the look, pair green, tan or black shirts or slacks with either a striped or a solid red or orange neck scarf.

For those looking to stay more relaxed, there is always the meme-inspiring bathrobe guy, who was spotted in the background of a heated exchange between the head of a private men's club in Toronto and Liberal candidate Chrystia Freeland, also in August. PHOTOS: CANADIAN PRESS AND JESSICA SMITH

ELECTION WHERE TO STAY INFORMED

On television

• Catch election coverage on the major TV networks.

Online

• Follow election night coverage at metronews.ca. On Twitter, The @Canada-land crew will tweet from the Monarch Tavern's Election Night Party in Toronto.

Social media

• Metro will be posting election selfies to our Instagram account, [metronewsca](https://www.instagram.com/metronewsca). And don't forget Sluts Against Harper is a saucy account that promises to send nude selfies to anyone who can prove they've voted. Find them on Instagram at [@votes4nudes](https://www.instagram.com/votes4nudes).
DEVON SCOBLE AND METRO

Babymetal is just the tip of the idol iceberg

IDOL BANDS

Girls dress as condiments and perform as Hamburgirl Z

Alan Cross
For Metro Canada



"Have you ever been to Japan?" The former Canadian embassy worker and I were talking at a music industry event. "It's as close as you can get to Mars without leaving the planet." He meant no insult; he was just trying to convey how different Westerners find life in cities like Tokyo and Osaka. He paused. "And don't get me started on idol bands."

Ah, the idol. This is a peculiar Japanese construct with no analogue in this part of the world. Think of it as a media personality — often but not exclusively a musical group — who is marketed for their cuteness, youth, sweetness, innocence and/or coolness. Idol groups are like manufactured boy or girl bands but created at an industrial level by talent agencies, promoters and even corporations.

It's not what anyone would call "serious" music, but the idol industry is seriously popular and an extremely profitable part of Japanese music culture.

For example, there's Morning Musume, who have been around forever and hold the record for the most consecutive Top 10 singles for a Japanese artist with 10.

AKB48 is the biggest idol group with at least 140 members (no, that's not a typo) and domestic sales far north of \$200 million.



Members of Japan's idol group Babymetal, (from left to right) Moameta, Su-Metal and Yui-metal, perform pop lyrics and dance in front of a death metal band. TORU YAMANAKA/GETTY IMAGES

Then there's Babymetal which features three moppets singing and dancing in front of a fierce death metal band. Once you get over the shock of the cute pop vocals vs. metal guitars juxtaposition, it's impossible to look away.

Even more extreme is Ladybaby (more J-pop than idol, but still) featuring Ladybeard, a metal-singing, cross-dressing ex-professional wrestler from Australia bookended by two adorable schoolgirls. The effect is like a concussion grenade.

My latest discovery is The West Japan Hamburgirl Z, a 15-member girl group who sing songs and dance dances inspired solely by a love of hamburgers.

When they perform live, each member has a different burger ingredient on her head, ranging from the expected (a beef patty, which is Riinya's thing, making her the front person, I guess) to the very Japanese (eggplant, Awajishima fish). And before you ask, Hamburgirl Z does have a bacon specialist: Tsuumin, who says her favourite word is "Thank

you."

As is the custom with idol bands, each member is also given a specific identity to help us tell them apart. Riinya for example, is partial to horse sashimi. Her motto is "If you believe, anyone can be Cinderella."

Trust me: Whatever NASA discovers on Mars the Japanese idol industry will have it beat.

For more from Alan, go to AJournalofMusicalThings.com or follow him on Twitter at @alancross.

TRIAL

Jay Z testifies in copyright case

Jay Z told a jury Wednesday that he believes he has a valid license to use Arabic music featured on his 1999 hit Big Pimpin' that is now the subject of a copyright infringement trial.

The superstar spent roughly 90 minutes testifying in a federal court, recounting his life, success and the creative process that led him and music producer Timbaland to create Big Pimpin'.

Jay Z and Timbaland are being sued by an heir of Baligh Hamdi, an Egyptian composer who created the 1957 hit Khosara Khosara that has elements featured in the rapper's hit.

The rapper, whose real name is Shawn Carter, used one of his old CDs — introduced into evidence by a lawyer for Hamdi's family — to illustrate his point.

"We have the rights as you can see on the bottom of the CD," Carter told jurors, referencing liner notes that credits Khosara Khosara.

The rapper mixed his testimony with no-nonsense, one-word answers, humility about his success and humorous moments.

When Pete Ross, the lawyer for Hamdi's nephew, attempted to show him a passage in a book Carter had written about his lyrics, the performer wryly said, "You can read it from over there."

The courtroom burst into laughter, as it did again when Carter was asked by his own attorney about artists whose careers he had fostered, including Rihanna, J. Cole and Kanye West.

"Some people may have heard of him," Carter's attorney, Andrew Bart, said of West.

"One or two," Carter responded. "He's running for president."

The rapper was more serious when questioned about the rights to Khosara Khosara, which he said he thought had



Shawn Carter. GETTY IMAGES

been properly negotiated after issues were raised following the release of Big Pimpin'.

Lawyers for Carter and Timbaland, whose real name is Timothy Mosley, told jurors on Tuesday that Hamdi's family had been repeatedly paid for the use of Khosara Khosara. Four notes from the song's 74 notes are repeated throughout Big Pimpin', a music expert testified Wednesday.

Carter said Mosley introduced the Khosara Khosara melody to him just as he was about to leave a meeting. He said there wasn't anything like it on the radio at the time, and he put together the bulk of the song over the next few hours. Carter sang the producer's praises, calling him a genius whose work transcends any one genre.

Jurors on Wednesday also heard from experts on Egyptian law and a videotaped deposition of Hamdi's nephew, Osama Ahmed Fahmy. Fahmy testified that he never contacted Carter, Mosley or numerous music companies he sued before filing suit in 2007, calling the case "the work of an attorney."

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Housing too diverse for simple analysis

Alberta is home to several local markets

Though national observers are increasingly keen to discuss and dissect Alberta's housing market, a closer look at the numbers suggests the province is home to several local markets, says Scott Bollinger, ComFree Commonsense Network's licensed associate broker.

"We see lots of things in the Toronto media about the Alberta market — it's cooling, it's crashing, it's bottomed out and will rebound with oil, it's this, that, and the other," Bollinger says.

"But the only question that's really relevant is, 'What's happening locally?' Alberta is too diverse and its big markets separated by too much empty space to create a cohesive and coherent provincial market."

For context, Bollinger points to statistics released recently by the big real estate boards in Edmonton and Calgary.

In Edmonton, for example, September sales of all residential properties sunk about seven per cent year over over, but the average price remained essentially flat at \$364,203.

In Calgary, September sales of all residential properties plunged 32 per cent, and average prices dropped about six per cent to \$457,658.

Bollinger says that a recent report compiled by CBRE Group shows Calgary has the highest concentration of oil and gas jobs — 8.5 per cent — of any city in North America. Bollinger says it stands to reason that Calgary is seeing drops in both sales figures and average prices.

"But to say all of Alberta is a uniform real

"BUT TO SAY ALL OF ALBERTA IS A UNIFORM REAL ESTATE MARKET? IT'S NOT ACCURATE, AND I THINK IT DOES A BIT OF A DISSERVICE TO FOLKS WHO MIGHT WANT TO INVEST HERE, MOVE HERE, OR SELL THEIR HOMES HERE."

— Scott Bollinger, ComFree Commonsense Network's licensed associate broker

estate market? It's not accurate, and I think it does a bit of a disservice to folks who might want to invest here, move here, or sell their homes here," Bollinger says.

He says Edmonton's economy, for example, is likely better poised to weather low oil prices because of its strengths in banking, construction, government, and health care.

"That city's chief economist just said Edmonton is likely to skirt a recession this year. Its economy might even grow slightly. And that all has a moderating effect on housing prices compared to its big sister city to the south."

Bollinger says Calgary's housing market traditionally sees "higher highs and lower lows" than Edmonton's.

"It's just another reason we should look at big headlines about Alberta's housing market with a grain of salt."



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The collection of high-end residences is located at 102 Avenue and 103 Street in downtown Edmonton, adjacent to the ICE district and within walking distance of the financial district, the city centre mall, downtown shopping and restaurants — everything residents will need to live effortlessly.

Not that you will want to leave home. The panoramic views from every suite in the all-glass, 40-storey tower are breathtaking. With its uniquely designed cross-shaped floor plate, every home is a corner unit with at least two directional views, if not three, displayed through the floor-to-ceiling windows of every room. Due to the historical low-rise buildings on all four sides, buyers can experience peace of mind in knowing their views will be protected for decades to come.

When residents and their guests enter the building, they are greeted by a three-storey grand lobby entrance with a flowing waterfall feature, marble floors and lounge areas. Guests and residents alike will enjoy the convenience and security that comes



from the 16-hour concierge service.

On the fourth floor, residents can unwind on the expansive sun lounge with its Las Vegas-style cabanas, wading pool and indoor/outdoor fireplace. Step inside to the interior lounge and treat your friends to a party while making use of the extended entertainment bar and plush seating.

Every suite in Encore has two bedrooms and two bathrooms. There are just five suites per floor from floors five to 34, ranging from 812 to 1,484 square feet. The five floors crowning Encore feature luxury penthouses ranging from 1,294 to 2,786 square feet.

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Award-winning condo-style homes

Christenson Communities is redefining what it means to 'age in place'. As building operator for Christenson Developments — which has over 30 years of experience building award-winning townhomes, bungalows and condominiums — Christenson Communities is answering a growing need for independent and supportive living options.

Christenson Communities manages luxury retirement villages in Edmonton, Sherwood Park, St. Albert and Lacombe. There are also upcoming villages in Rocky Mountain House, Red Deer and Whitecourt, with another in Valleyview, to the north, and as far south as Calgary. The non-profit Our Parents' Home in downtown Edmonton is also managed by Christenson Communities — it joins 10 new Christenson villages that will be built around the province over the next three years.

"We build and promote villages that offer a range of living options and services that meet residents' evolving needs," says Dan Rojek, director of finance and corporate strategy with Christenson Communities. "Our aim is to provide a caring home for residents that enables them to continue to prosper physically, emotionally and spiritually, now and as they move along the continuum of care."

Christenson Communities offers residents

a choice of award-winning condominium-style homes with a full spectrum of optional services, including fine dining, housekeeping, recreational programming, and clinical services. Christenson Communities also provides designated supportive living, memory care, and home care services funded through Alberta Health Services. As of December, 2014, Christenson Communities is also accredited, meeting the highest quality standards and required organizational practices as set out by Accreditation Canada.

"Quality and innovation are core values at Christenson Communities, and they guide everything we do," Rojek says. "This includes providing unique recreational opportunities, such as our signature Inspired Living program, healthy eating options that have tangible impacts on resident health, on-site physician rounds and pharmacy, Alzheimer's Café as a social support for individuals, families, and caregivers affected by dementia, and more."

"We are a company that stands for freedom of choice. Whether it's a decision to life lease or rent your suite, buy meals from the dining room or cook in your own kitchen, or order any of the various private services — it's completely up to you," Rojek says.



CONTRIBUTED

Building a culture of hospitality

Christenson Communities knows that retirement living isn't just about having a secure, comfortable place to call home. It's also about having choice in how you live, what you eat, and what opportunities are offered for socialization, recreation and spiritual enrichment.

Christenson Communities emphasizes hospitality not unlike a higher-end hotel, with staff organizing special events like food tastings, themed brunches, and life-enriching bus outings to museums, theatres and more. Hospitality is deeply ingrained in Christenson Communities culture, starting at the top where each manager is enrolled in a hospitality management program through eCornell.

"There's also an emphasis on socializing — bridge, movie nights, wine and cheese — and creating spaces for residents to congregate. We invest a lot of time and effort into our health and wellness programming to help develop the physical, emotional and spiritual side of our residents. Otherwise it's just a building," says Dan Rojek, director of finance and corporate strategy with Christenson Communities.

Rojek said along with varying recreational activities like on-site yoga, tai chi, iPad/Skype classes and cardio circuits, Christenson Communities has created a chaplaincy



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program at a growing number of its sites to address the spiritual and emotional needs of residents too.

"Residents often face the emotional distress of death and loss, illness and loneliness. Sometimes residents have no family here, so we look at the picture holistically and ensure

the proper supports are in place for each resident," Rojek says.

Describing each community as resident-driven, Rojek said each Christenson Communities village varies in its offerings based on resident feedback in the form of surveys and resident council meetings. Residents also

WHAT IS A LIFE LEASE?

To make living at a Christenson Communities village as easy and affordable as possible, the company offers life leasing — a way for residents to reduce their monthly net rent to as low as zero by providing a loan equivalent to the full or partial value of the suite. Dan Rojek, director of finance and corporate strategy with Christenson Communities, said life leasing offers affordability and choice, and is selected by up to 85 per cent of residents.

Benefits of a life lease include reduced or eliminated rental costs and cost certainty each month, plus condo style living without the responsibility of home ownership.

As well, life leasing gives a resident freedom to relocate without the difficulty of having to sell a property and worrying about fluctuations in the value of their property.

have access to a full array of optional services that suit their individual needs — from fine dining and private housekeeping to 24/7 personal care and companion services.

"It's about creating that atmosphere of choice and freedom in all our communities. We pay attention to all of it, offering wide-ranging lifestyle options for residents, wherever they're at in life," Rojek says.



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Newly opened in the heart of Edmonton, Our Parents' Home is a 14-storey high rise that allows residents to 'age in place'.

With independent living, supportive living and memory care under one roof, Our Parents' Home combines housing, dining and medical needs with a walkable, vibrant neighbourhood, amazing views and in-house amenities, and the opportunity to be part of an engaged resident community.

Todd Ketteringham, community administrator for Our Parents' Home, said the one and two-bedroom, wheelchair-accessible suites, 24/7 security and emergency service, and multi-level, heated parking are all top quality features, but he points to the extras that create community and offer special lifestyle options here — things like 14th floor lounge with world-class views, billiards table and baby grand piano, a space with 'wow' factor that encourages residents and their guests to socialize or enjoy the roof-top patio

and garden. "We're footsteps from the river valley too — it's right downtown and near Oliver for shopping and dining — everything is convenient," said Ketteringham. "Choice is the richness at Our Parents' Home — residents can take in the fitness, special meals, music or other programming — wherever their interest lies."

With the option of life lease or rental, residents in the independent suites can take meal packages (healthy living options and Kosher-approved meals are available) or cook in their own fully-equipped kitchens. In coming months, Our Parents' Home hair salon, library, movie theatre and bistro (for a snack or early morning coffee) will come on stream too.

"We embrace our resident's desire for a quality life. Seniors want social connections in an active community," said Ketteringham. "Whether it's the healthy life program



SHUTTERSTOCK

focused on fitness, nutrition and well-being or enjoying the cozy fireplace in our 'lounge in the sky', we have all that here."

Managed by Christenson Communities, Phase I of Our Parents' Home is now open

and accepting leases. Potential residents are encouraged to speak to the lifestyle consultant at 780-988-5504 to arrange a visit, enjoy a complimentary meal experience and see what Our Parents' Place has to offer.



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Christenson Communities, an award winning operator, is redefining retirement living in central Alberta.

Our Parents' Home is located in the heart of Edmonton and will offer many choices to suit your retirement living needs. Residents who choose this community choose a lifestyle built around choice, convenience, flexibility, and the opportunity to age in place.

INFO CENTRE NOW OPEN

For more information about Our Parents' Home or to schedule an appointment, please call **780.988.5504**.

Info Centre located at 10112 - 119th Street
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Hotels to pique appetites

ON THE MOVE

Semi-private dining, diverse cultural dishes to be found

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada



Travellers in search of great culinary destinations have to look no further than where they lay their head. Hotels across the country are ready to give you not only a great sleep but to tantalize your taste buds.

Intimate dining

Toronto's Westin Harbour Castle is home to celebrity chef Corbin Tomaszewski. The host of popular Food Network shows Dinner Party Wars, Restaurant Makeover and Restaurant Takeover, Chef Corbin has made this waterfront hotel the place to stay for foodies.

Not only has he added his unique flair to the restaurants' wellness-inspired menus, but the chef has also carved out a section of the busy kitchen for Savoury, a secluded, one-of-a-



Savoury at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto is a 10-person restaurant adjacent to the busy kitchen. CONTRIBUTED

kind 10-person restaurant. The semi-private location offers small groups of diners a five-course meal in an intimate and VIP setting. Dinner can be booked with one of the hotel's chefs or booked with Chef Corbin himself to discuss the preparation methods, cooking techniques, as well as the origins of the dishes. Wine pairings are also available.

Hip hangout

Located in the heart of down-

town Calgary, Hotel Arts is a full-service 185-room designer boutique-style hotel that opened its doors 10 years ago.

The vibe is hip and totally sexy — the kind of place where you walk in and realize you are staying with all the fun good-looking people.

However, the real gems of the hotel are the trend-setting restaurants, which have seen local superstars like chefs Duncan Ly and Karine Moulin pass through their pantries. Togeth-

er with current executive chef Jan Hansen, they have elevated this hotel to a foodie paradise.

My breakfast at the Yellow Door Bistro included Yellow Door Hash made with duck confit, soft poached eggs, roasted peppers, potatoes and Dijon sabayon. A rotation of incredible daily dishes ensures no buffet fatigue; the strawberry mint pancakes were to die for.

Locally influenced

Montreal's Hotel Le Crystal is a five-star all-suite hotel on Rue de la Montagne, two blocks from the Bell Centre and a pleasant walk to shopping on Rue Ste. Catherine.

A quick look at the menu of the hotel's La Coupole restaurant and you notice something different: from sturgeon and deer pancetta to arctic char and red elk. Using only products from local farmers and artisans the dishes reflect the old-fashioned cooking of the families who built Quebec. First Nations' traditional dishes and a dash of the immigrant cultures that shaped the province's culinary heritage. I had the crème brûlée with maple duck foie gras and the pork cheek confit. D-e-l-i-c-i-o-u-s.



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Sarah Jessica Parker wore this Oscar de la Renta black-and-white gown with a criss-cross design on the back to the 2014 Met Gala. SCAD VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

See dresses that impress in ATL

NEW EXHIBITION

Fashion museum opens with Oscar de la Renta tribute

A new museum focusing on international fashion has opened in Atlanta.

The first exhibition at SCAD FASH features more than 80 Oscar de la Renta designs and opened to the public this month on the Atlanta campus of the Savannah College of Art and Design. The pieces come from the school's permanent collection and donations from collectors and celebrities who worked with de la Renta before his death in 2014.

De la Renta was a frequent donor to SCAD's collections and the natural choice for the opening, said Laurie Ann Farrell, executive director of museums and exhibitions and curator of the showing. She hopes visitors whether casual observer or de-

voted student will learn something about design.

"Everybody selects their clothes as one way of signifying their identity," Farrell said. "Even if somebody doesn't consider themselves a fashion aficionado, I think they can come in and be inspired by what different designers have done through the years."

The pieces on display in Atlanta until Dec. 31 cover decades of work, from a 1965 black cashmere dress with a white satin collar and waist bow to a silk colour-block gown designed by creative director Peter Copping for fall 2015 and worn at the Emmy awards by actress Maggie Gyllenhaal.

Student-docents hold iPads with information about each garment as they guide visitors through the 10,000-square-foot space, winding through curved

galleries and small rooms featuring a source of inspiration for the designer. A white, mirrored room contains romantic wedding gowns and a silk-patterned dress inspired by Marie Antoinette while a nearby platform holds a gathering of black and red flamenco-inspired garments with dramatic ruffles and other flourishes.

The museum gallery opens up to a film salon holding cushioned ottomans and

sofas facing a 90-inch screen surrounded by backlit bookshelves. SCAD also plans to hold showings and lectures either connected or not to the clothing exhibits.

"Designers are artists," Farrell said. "As a visual experience alone, I think people can walk away with a deeper understanding of how a house evolves over time but maintains that classic elegance."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

80

The exhibition shows more than 80 designs by de la Renta, including gowns worn by Taylor Swift, Laura Bush and Oprah.

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Coaches like new challenge

NHL Games face likelihood of fewer goals if changes work

Throughout Jonathan Bernier's career, referees have skated to him and apologized for missing a goaltender interference call in a previous game. He gets it.

"That's just part of hockey," the Toronto Maple Leafs goaltender said.

"It's such a fast game, and they can't be in great position all the time."

In the first game under the NHL's new coach's challenge system for goaltender interference and offside situations, Montreal Canadiens forward Tomas Plekanec interfered with

Bernier. Some quick work from Leafs assistant Andrew Brewer led to coach Mike Babcock initiating the first challenge and Jeff Petry's goal being overturned.

The Blues weren't as fortunate when they tried a few days later. Teams are 2-for-5 on coach's challenges through the first week under the new system — 2-for-4 on goalie interference and 0-for-1 on offside plays.

The first impression of challenges, valid only on goals scored with potential goaltender interference or offside plays, is that it'll take plenty of goals off the board and that coaches will be aggressive in using them.

"If we think there's even a 50 per cent chance, we're going to take the risk," Blues coach Ken Hitchcock said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

5

STORYLINES AT THE ALCS

The Toronto Blue Jays will play the Kansas City Royals in the American League Championship Series starting Friday. Here are five intriguing stories heading into the best-of-seven series:

THE CANADIAN PRESS



George Bell vs. Royals in 1985. THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP/CLIFF SCHIAPPA

1 We've seen this one before

The 2015 ALCS will be a rematch of the 1985 version, which saw Kansas City beat the Blue Jays in seven games. Toronto led the series 3-1 before the Royals clawed back to win the next three games and advance to the World Series, which the Royals ultimately won over St. Louis. Kansas City hasn't been able to win MLB's championship trophy since, and has been back to the final only once — last season.

3 Bad blood

Tensions ran high in a game at Rogers Centre in August. Royals pitcher Edinson Volquez hit Josh Donaldson with a pitch in the first inning, prompting home plate umpire Jim Wolf to issue warnings to both clubs. Volquez threw a change-up high and in on Donaldson in his next at-bat, then plunked Toronto shortstop Troy Tulowitzki but remained in the game. In the eighth, Toronto reliever Aaron Sanchez was ejected for hitting Kansas City's Alcides Escobar with a pitch. Benches cleared.

4 Is the Price right?

Toronto manager John Gibbons shocked Blue Jays fans when he used Price — his team's prized trade-deadline acquisition — out of the bullpen to relieve R.A. Dickey with a six-run lead in Game 4 of the ALDS. The left-handed ace threw 50 pitches in that game, making him unavailable for the fifth game. Price, the 2012 AL Cy Young winner and one of the front-runners for this year's best pitcher award, hasn't necessarily been able to translate that success into the post-season.

5 Familiar faces

It didn't take Gibbons long to find a new job after he was fired from his first stint as Toronto manager during the 2008 season. He took a job as Kansas City's bench coach that off-season, working with the team until 2011. Gibbons has experience with the Royals core group, including position players Alex Gordon, Eric Hosmer, Jarrod Dyson, Alcides Escobar, Mike Moustakas and Salvador Perez, and pitchers Greg Holland, Luke Hochevar and Danny Duffy.

2 No one wants it more

Before this post-season began, the position player with the most games played without a playoff appearance was Royals outfielder (and former Blue Jay) Alex Rios with 1,691. Toronto's Jose Bautista was second (1,403) while Blue Jays slugger Edwin Encarnacion was third (1,353). All three players, aged 34, 32, and 32 respectively, have waited more than a decade for their chance at post-season ball and none have disappointed so far. Rios is batting .286 with a couple RBIs through five ALDS games for Kansas City, Bautista has hit two homers and driven in five runs through five post-season games with the Jays and Encarnacion has a .333 post-season batting average with three RBIs.



Jose Bautista
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALCS STARTERS

Volquez faces Estrada in Game 1 of ALCS

The Kansas City Royals are sending Blue Jays antagonist Edinson Volquez to the mound for Game 1 of their AL Championship Series, while Toronto is countering with ALDS Game 3 winner Marco Estrada.

The opening game is Friday night at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City.

It was Volquez whose inside pitching drew the ire of the Blue Jays in early August, eventually leading

to a pair of bench-clearing incidents during their game at Rogers Centre.

After the game, he called Blue Jays star Josh Donaldson "a little baby" for complaining about his pitching.

The Royals will start Yordano Ventura in Game 2 on Saturday, while Johnny Cueto will pitch the third game in Toronto. The Blue Jays will put David Price on the mound in Game 2, followed by Marcus Stroman and knuckleballer R.A. Dickey. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malkin ends barren run to sink Senators

NHL

Penguins blank Ottawa as Fleury stops 22 shots

Evgeni Malkin scored his first goal in nearly seven months and Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 22 shots for his 39th career shutout as the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Ottawa Senators 2-0 on Thursday night.

Rookie Daniel Sprong picked up the first goal of his career for Pittsburgh, which won for the first time this season.

Craig Anderson made 34 saves for Ottawa but the Senators failed to muster significant momentum a night after dropping seven goals on Columbus.

Ottawa went 0 for 3 on the power play and rarely tested Fleury over the final

RESULTS

Capitals 4, Blackhawks 1
Islanders 4, Predators 3
Panthers 3, Sabres 2
Stars 5, Lightning 3
Canadiens 3, Rangers 0

two periods as the Senators lost on the road for the first time in four tries.

The Penguins came in scuffling after the franchise's worst start in a decade, managing all of three goals during an 0-3 stretch that left their stars frustrated and head coach Mike Johnston imploring them — again — to shoot the puck more often. The goal was Malkin's first since March 6.

He went scoreless during Pittsburgh's five-game loss to the New York Rangers in the opening round of the playoffs.

The Penguins' lead doubled just over two minutes later



Pittsburgh's Patric Hornqvist, left, looks for a rebound on a shot by David Perron. GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THURSDAY in Pittsburgh

2 0
PENGUINS SENATORS

when Sprong showcased why his tryout period with the team might turn into some-

thing more permanent.

The 18-year-old second-round pick surprisingly made the club out of training thanks to his relentlessly energetic play and his first NHL goal showcased a shot that would seem to be a waste if he's returned to the junior ranks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CURLING

High-tech brooms a threat

An unprecedented leap in sweeping technology threatens to dramatically change the sport of curling.

While they wait for their sport's governing bodies to catch up and impose new rules, some of the world's top curling teams say they won't use broomheads that can actually slow down, and change the direction of, a rock in motion.

It's an awkward position

to take for the teams who are sponsored by the very manufacturers who make the controversial brushes.

But Olympic gold medalists Brad Jacobs' rink is among 22 domestic and international teams that signed a statement stating they will not sweep with brooms. "Where do you draw the line?" Jacobs asked. "We've decided as a group of players to draw the line right now." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Westerra Bend Subdivision

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This stunning executive 2 storey home on Prestigious Westerra Bend. Located next to playground and park area. Larger windows throughout give an abundance of natural light. High end finishes and granite at every turn. Kitchen has a large island, Double size pantry and cupboards to the ceiling. 4 bedrooms total including the Master Oasis has spa like ensuite and massive walk in closet. Upper floor laundry makes the house chores easier. Oversize double garage is fully insulated and dry walled measuring 24 x 24.

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RECIPE Apple Chicken Curry



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We call this our beginners curry — not very spicy and really simple to make.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1 cup basmati rice
- 2 chicken breasts, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 onion, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves minced
- 1-2 tsp curry powder or paste
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 2/3 cup of coconut milk
- 2/3 cup of chicken stock
- 1 large apple, peeled and sliced

into thin wedges
• 1 cup of frozen peas
• 1/4 cup of plain yogurt

Directions

1. Prepare rice according to package instructions.
2. Brown the chicken in a bit of vegetable oil in large skillet. Add the onions and cook for about 5 more minutes. Then add the garlic and the curry and cook for another minute.
3. Add the coconut milk, chicken stock and soy and stir together.
4. Add the apple pieces and simmer for 5 minutes. Add the peas and allow them to warm through. Check to see that the chicken has cooked through.
5. Serve the curry over rice and top it with a bit of yogurt.

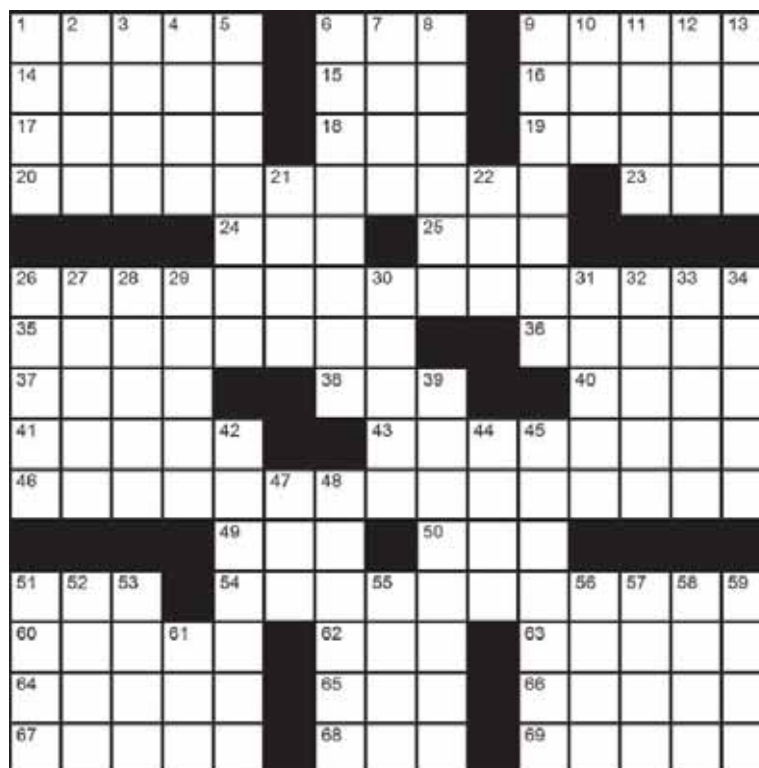
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Actress/singer Ms. Maracle
6. Hosp. readout
9. Fireplace flicker
14. "Alice" star Linda
15. Expert
16. Mediterranean island
17. Send to the House of Commons
18. 'Jag' add-on (Big spotted cat)
19. Yves Saint Laurent perfume
20. Gigantic red roadside attraction in Elm Creek, Manitoba: 2 wds.
23. He who loved Estella
24. Bemoan
25. French 'law'
26. FIFA 16, the new ___ by EA Sports, features women's national teams for the first time, including Canada
35. "___ MacEvil" by Blood, Sweat & Tears
36. Knobby
37. End in ___ (Draw)
38. 'E' in HRE, briefly
40. Variant-spelled edge tool
41. Feelings
43. Move in pro wrestling: 2 wds.
46. Anglophones: 2 wds.
49. Boxing stat.
50. Gerard ___ Borch (Dutch painter)
51. Notable time



54. News, interviews, indie band airplay... Student-run operation: 2 wds.
60. Enthusiasm
62. Jon Jovi link
63. Advertising suffix
64. Sparkle
65. Egg mass

66. Be victorious in: 2 wds.
67. Skirt's stitched spots
68. Hmms...
69. Hayes and Connery

DOWN

1. Music notation

2. Nova Scotia's cap.
3. At all
4. Particular pudding
5. ___ days (From Friday, when it'll be Monday)
6. This brandy's French name means 'water

- of life': 3 wds.
7. "If I Had \$1,000,000" vehicle
8. President Ford
9. Carly Rae Jepsen's latest album
10. Chart
11. Radar signal
12. Ornament-

- al case
13. Highway exit
21. Portable dwelling of Mongolia
22. San Francisco's ___ Valley
26. Pool table surface
27. Go ___ a limb
28. Including others in on the memo
29. Fish-holding basket
30. Poetic feet
31. "___ Alice..." - Jefferson Airplane, "White Rabbit"
32. Befuddle
33. Madonna's actress friend Debi
34. For short in Science.. Na, Ne and Ni
39. Fare featured on #9-Down: 2 wds.
42. Funny television shows
44. Kiki and Sandra
45. Surnamesakes of Peter of Peter, Paul & Mary
47. Music style
48. Madrid 'man'
51. Frittata ingredients
52. Lindsay Lohan movie, "Georgia ___" (2007)
53. On the Atlantic
55. Ricky Nelson's "___ Little Fool"
56. Movie director Mr. Posin
57. Mr. Carvey
58. David Bowie's wife
59. Quaker ___ Company
61. Highlands hat

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You may suspect that someone is taking advantage of your easygoing nature but don't make a fuss about it. There is no percentage in getting angry with people who take a little bit for themselves at your expense. You can afford to be generous.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
There is an air of anticipation, as if something dramatic will happen. If you keep your head you will benefit from whatever changes take place.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You might like to change the world but all you can really do is change yourself. Act only from the highest of principles today and set an example for others.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
What seemed like a setback yesterday will be seen in a much more positive light today. Your attitude toward success will change. There is no reason at all to be embarrassed if you find fame and fortune.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your thoughts may be far away but you won't be allowed to neglect your duties for long. Employers will let you know in no uncertain terms if they think you are not pulling your weight.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your power to influence events is limited but why should that be a bad thing? Do you really need to change things that much? Maybe it is your perspective that is wrong.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you want something enough you will no doubt find a way to get it, but you will get it quicker and easier if you start thinking in terms of cooperation rather than conflict. There is only so much you can accomplish on your own.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The people you are closest too are feeling a bit neglected. Remind them what they mean to you. But don't give up on the hard work.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Whatever you do over the next few days will be a success. It will be even more of a success if you don't worry too much about how much it is likely to cost you. Money is not an issue.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Keep your plans to yourself today. If you let slip even a hint of what you are up to those who wish you ill will find ways to make things tough.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Any doubts you had about what you should be doing with your life will disappear over the week-end. Remember: you are who you are for a reason. Listen to your inner voice. Let it guide you.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
The odds are in your favour so make things easy for yourself by swimming with the tide rather than fighting against it. If someone wants to do things for you today all you have to do is let them.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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